

**Bowery Dancers**

Group scheduled to perform in Junction City

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# Fort Riley Post

**Middle school sports begin**

Football, tennis, volleyball seasons in full swing

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Thursday, September 1, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 48, No. 35

## Around The Army

### Fort Monroe:

The Casemate reported Aug. 19 that Charleston, S.C. was the setting of a fictitious nuclear disaster. The Joint Task Force Civil Support, a unit comprised of service members from all branches of the military, participated in the training exercise to improve and accelerate the nation's response to a natural disaster. JTF-CS routinely conducts training exercises to insure its readiness.

For more on this and other Fort Monroe, Va. news visit [www.monroe.army.mil/casemate](http://www.monroe.army.mil/casemate) on the Web.

### Korea:

The Morning Calm Weekly reported Aug. 30 that officials from the 2nd Infantry Division and the Uijeongbu city government watched as heavy machinery knocked down part of the Camp Red Cloud fence. Army officials are turning over a significant segment of land to the city nearly one year ahead of schedule. The city agreed to pay about \$11 million in new construction costs needed to rebuild facilities affected by returning the land to the city.

For more on this and other Camp Red Cloud, Korea news, visit <http://ima.korea.army.mil/morningcalmweekly> on the Web.

### Fort Knox:

The Turret reported Aug. 25 that nine Soldiers of the 16th Cavalry, who were returning from a funeral detail in West Virginia, managed to return three more funerals.

The Soldiers rescued a family of three from their over-turned vehicle and administered first aid while they waited for the ambulance to arrive.

The Soldiers followed the ambulance to the hospital and brought the family's belongings inside after making sure they were all safe.

For more on this and other Fort Knox, Ky. news, visit [www.the-newscenterprize.com/turret](http://www.the-newscenterprize.com/turret) on the Web.

### Aberdeen:

APG News reported Aug. 11 that an ongoing partnership between Aberdeen Proving Ground organizations is resulting in continuous improvement in the restoration of submerged aquatic vegetation along the installation's shorelines.

The partnership includes continuous sampling, monitoring and evaluation by the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, the U.S. Army Environmental Center and the Garrison's Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, as well as the Chesapeake Research Consortium.

For more on this and other Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. news, visit [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil) on the Web.

## Henry Drive bridges to be replaced

### Staff report

Henry Drive to Fort Riley's Main Post will be closed beginning Sept. 6 due to reconstruction of two bridges located on this road. The 960-foot Kansas River bridge and the 225-foot bridge over the railroad tracks will close at 9 a.m.

This closing will require approximately 5,000 vehicles to find alternate routes to their Fort Riley desti-

nations, according to David Scruggs of Public Works.

Scruggs said that the 40-year-old bridges are currently safe, but the bridge decking and steel girders are starting to show visible deterioration and corrosion. This is primarily due to sodium chloride (salt), which is spread on the bridge roadways to melt the ice and snow, he said.

The deterioration and corrosion

is to a point that it economically warrants replacement of the concrete deck and steel girders instead of further spot repairs, he added. The construction contract was awarded to Dondlinger and Sons of Wichita, Kan., in late January for \$6.4 million, according to Scruggs. He said the contract is to be completed by June 30, 2006, barring any delays.

See Bridges, Page 14



Construction equipment sits below the Kansas River bridge on Henry Drive in preparation for construction that is set to begin Sept. 6.

Post/Blackmon

## JRTC visit



### Delegation tours training

Above - Lt. Col. Michael Higginbottom, commander of the 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, (right) Don Reed, Clay Center mayor (center) and Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley (left), lead a delegation of community leaders through a portion of 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division's training area while the delegation visited the Joint Readiness Training Center Aug. 19-21 at Fort Polk, La.

Right - Terry Heldstab, Junction City commissioner watches training as Lt. Col. Christopher McCurry, 101st Forward Support Battalion commander, describes the training his unit is undergoing.

Story and photos on Page 12



## Brigade trains with live fire

### Soldiers participate in JRTC exercise

Pfc. James Tamez

19th PAD

Fort Polk, La. - On the battlefield, Soldiers have a few precious seconds to make decisions that can save, or cost, the lives of comrades.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized), recently participated in a live-fire training exercise at the Joint Readiness Training Center.

From convoys to building clearing exercises, the LFX gives Soldiers the necessary training to make effective use of their skills individually and as a unit.

"The impact of one Soldier can influence everything," said Maj. Mike Quintania, 1st Bn., 16th Inf. operations officer. "There are many different methods attacking coalition forces. That is why it is important each Soldier knows the importance of the rules of engagement."

With this in mind the trainers began the process of training, or in many cases retraining Soldiers.

"Only the people who haven't been (deployed) there would say this training is unnecessary," said Sgt. Joshua Kegley, headquarters platoon sergeant, Company A, 1st Bn. 16th Inf. Kegley also said this is a great opportunity to prepare the unit's new Soldiers for deployment.

"This training helps to train up the new guys," said Spc. Neil Eaton, Co. A, 1st Bn. 16th Inf. "It helps us all get the basics down and do the job right."

"Everybody has to train to know how to react, until it becomes second nature," Kegley said.

Quintania said the intent of both the LFX and JRTC is to give the Soldiers an idea of what to

See LFX, Page 13

## 3rd Brigade Soldiers conduct raids in Iraq

By Kevin Bromley  
100th MPAD

TAJI, Iraq - During an Aug. 7 raid, Task Force Baghdad Soldiers arrested a man suspected of building improvised explosive devices. The man is also suspected of teaching others how to manufacture IEDs.

The Soldiers from Company A,

1st Battalion, 13th Armored Regiment, raided the suspect's home based on information gathered from Iraqi citizens.

Although Soldiers did not find explosives in the man's home, the owner had a mock-up of an IED. U.S. troops confiscated the training aid, possibly used to teach novice terrorists how to build bombs, consisting of a concrete block, a fake cell-phone, and wires.

The suspected terrorist had documentation of several aliases, five passports, a rocket-propelled grenade sighting system, and 5,000 Iraqi dinar.

The man was detained for further questioning.

Another U.S. raid turned up a suspected drug dealer with ties to the insurgency Aug. 7.

An Iraqi informant provided

information regarding the drug dealer who was supporting Anti-Iraqi Forces. Soldiers from Company B, 1st Battalion, 115th Infantry Regiment, assigned to 1st Battalion, 118th Field Artillery, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, raided three houses based on the tip provided by the Iraqi citizen.

U.S. troops found drug paraphernalia and large quantities of narcotics in the first home they

searched.

The field artillery Soldiers detained the drug dealer and suspected terrorists for additional questioning.

"Local citizens pointed out someone suspicious to us because they didn't want drug dealers and terrorists in their neighborhood," said Col. David Bishop, commander of the 3rd Bde., 1st Armored Div.





## Post news in brief

### CID offers \$1,000 reward

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the larceny and arson of a 2004 maroon Dodge Intrepid, Kansas License Number ONEAL2, Vehicle Identification Number 2B3HD46R44H622706.

The vehicle was stolen between 9:25 p.m. May 13, 2005, and 6:30 a.m. May 14, 2005, from Roosevelt Street on Fort Riley.

Anyone with information about this incident should call Special Agent Charles Baker at the Fort Riley CID office, 239-6767.

### One ID required to enter post

Force protection officials at Fort Riley have deleted the requirement for individuals to show two forms of identification at post access control points between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. the following day.

Only one photo identification is required.

For more information, call 239-8418.

### Registration open for exams

This fall's registration process for November Automotive Service Excellence exams administered through DANTES Test Centers is currently under way. Test dates are Nov. 10, 15 and 17.

Eligible Soldiers must register with an education counselor by Sept. 9 in order to test in November. All candidates must pay a registration fee of \$32.

DANTES authorizes funding for a maximum of three \$25 ASE examinations for each semi-annual examination cycle. Active duty and Reserve component Soldiers are eligible to test for either credit-by-examination or for certification. DANTES does not fund the L1, L2 or any recertification exams.

All examinations begin at 8 a.m. at the Main Post Education Center, Building 217.

For more information, call 239-6481.

### Network shifts 'In Step' times

Channel 13 plans to shift some show times for "In Step With Fort Riley" from its normal 7 a.m. Sunday slot to another time slot to accommodate the Jerry Lewis Labor Day telethon and some sports programming.

"In Step With Fort Riley" will air at 4:30 a.m. on Sept. 3 and 10, Oct. 15 and December 3 and 24 instead of 7 a.m. Sunday those weeks.

### Regs restrict number of pets

Fort Riley Regulation 40-18 (Pet Registration) states sylvatic and sylvatic hybrid animals will not be kept as pets on the installation. Those animals include wolves, wolf-hybrid animals, coyote hybrids, snakes, poisonous amphibians and poisonous reptiles.

Riley's Rules, which are updated each year by the post's commanding general, prohibit the keeping of ferrets on post. It supersedes FR Reg. 40-19, which states ferrets are allowed.

Owners who had ferrets as pets before the current Riley's Rules were published can submit an appeal in writing to the garrison commander justifying why an exemption should be made to Riley's Rules in their individual case.

For more information about animal control rules and regulations, call the Fort Riley Provost Marshal's Office.

By Anna Perry

19th PAD

Fort Polk, La. — First Brigade leaders are ensuring that Soldiers put safety first through the use of a campaign focused on awareness and prevention during their August rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center.

Three key elements of keeping Soldiers safe are awareness, communication and personal responsibility, said Maj. Jeffery Broadwater, executive officer, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized).

"What we're really trying to focus on is the preventive portion of safety, so Soldiers have an understanding and they look at mitigating the risk associated with their actions before they execute," Broadwater said.

The No. 1 safety concern at JRTC is hydration, said Ronald Clasberry, 1st Brigade safety specialist.

"It's very hot here, and heat-related illnesses are a concern," Clasberry said.

Because of this risk, prevention resources like ice and water points are located throughout the training areas, he said.

But the availability of resources alone cannot prevent heat injury, he said.

Broadwater stressed the importance of awareness, communication and personal responsibility in keeping Soldiers from being taken out of the fight due to heat injuries.



Sgt. Arthur Moore, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, ground guides a M-977 HEMTT through the motorpool.

19th PAD/Perry

"We rely on leader and buddy team involvement," he said. "Junior (officers) and noncommissioned officers continually stress hydration at the lowest level."

Still, he said, the resources are vital.

The forward operating base contains a centralized water point that provides Soldiers with ice water, and vehicle load plans include extra water for Soldiers on missions for extended periods, he said.

In addition to hydration, vehicle safety is another important issue stressed by brigade leaders.

First Brigade recently developed a safety sticker to be placed

in the passenger side window of all vehicles, Broadwater said.

The sticker reminds the track commander, the person in the right hand seat, that he is in control of the vehicle and all occupants. The TC enforces four guidelines: Soldiers must be in the proper uniform, seatbelts must be worn, speed limits must be obeyed and preventive maintenance must be completed before operating the vehicle.

Although track commanders are in control of the vehicle, every Soldier must accept responsibility in order for vehicle operations to run smoothly.

The sticker is just one more

opportunity for leaders to remind troops that safety should always be a priority, Broadwater said.

The message is being heard, said Sgt. Michael Arrington, a section sergeant for 1st Battalion, 34th Armored Regiment.

All Soldiers are made aware of proper driving techniques and breakdown contingency plans before leaving the motor pool, he said.

Furthermore, ground guides are

used at all times while in the FOB or motor pool, Arrington said.

Soldiers have also used the unfamiliar terrain and vehicles at JRTC to their advantage, giving them hands-on experience for

future deployments, Broadwater said.

"(JRTC) is a great opportunity for driver's training," he added.

Despite advanced planning and precautions, Broadwater and Clasberry realize brigade leaders and Soldiers must consistently enforce standards including proper hydration, uniform, equipment and procedures to make their JRTC rotation safe and successful.

Though Clasberry makes daily rounds, he can't be everywhere at once. Soldiers have to take personal responsibility for their own safety.

Clasberry may be the only safety officer, but he's not the only one who can report potentially dangerous situations.

"Anybody can report a safety violation," Broadwater said. "That can mean going up to a person and saying 'Hey, you're wrong.'"

Safety is a huge part of mission accomplishment, Broadwater said.

If one Soldier or piece of equipment is lost, combat effectiveness is reduced and morale is lowered, he said.

On the other hand, Broadwater added, safety gives Soldiers a better understanding of their jobs and improves situational awareness, which is the focus of JRTC training.

As Soldiers continue to put safety first, they will also improve their tactical and technical skills and ultimately enhance mission readiness, he said.

# BRAC commission wraps up decisions

By Donna Miles

AFPS

The Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission wrapped up four days of deliberations in final actions Aug. 26 and 27 by voting to turn Pope Air Force Base, N.C., into an Army airfield and recommending sweeping recommendations to revamp the Air National Guard and consolidate its operations.

The nine-member commission

deviated significantly from the Pentagon's proposed plan to realign the Air Guard, passing a recommendation that would ensure every state with an existing Air Guard unit would retain at least some Guard aircraft.

Specific details of the plan, including charts used in the deliberation, are expected to be released today, and DoD officials were reviewing the votes earlier today to assess their full impact, if implemented.

The panel also approved moving almost 15,000 U.S. troops from Germany to four stateside bases as part of the Army's modernization initiative. Gaining posts under the plan will be Fort Knox, Ky.; Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Bragg, N.C.; and Fort Riley, Kan.

The decisions, made over the course of four days in Arlington, Va., will be reflected in a final report to be sent to President Bush

by Sept. 8. If he concurs, the president will send the final list to Congress, which can accept or reject it in its entirety, but not change it.

The votes follow months of hearings around the country regarding DoD's proposal to reshape the military infrastructure and eliminate excess capacity by closing 33 major bases and realigning 29 others.

Defense officials had estimated the plan would save some \$49 billion over the next 20 years, although that figure is expected to alter dramatically based on the BRAC decisions.

In other actions since Aug. 24, the BRAC commission voted to move the dental training school at Sheppard Air Force Base, Kansas, to Fort Sam Houston as part of a new consolidated medical center.

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## Post news in brief

### New programs to be discussed

Education Services will host an open presentation regarding three new programs at Fort Riley Sept. 13. The presentation will be held at Riley's Conference Center, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The three new programs are:

1 - a Certificate in Homeland Security through Southwest College  
2 - a Bachelor of Science in Emergency and Disaster Management, through Upper Iowa University

3 - a Master's Degree in Business Administration

A representative from each college will be available to answer any questions. It is open to the entire community. Soldiers, family members, DACs, retirees and veterans. For further information, e-mail: moralea1@riley.army.mil or william.crawford1@us.army.mil

### Toastmasters late meeting

The next Old Bill's Toastmasters meeting is scheduled from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 8 at the Rally Point conference room. Anyone from the Fort Riley and Junction City communities interested in building their leadership skills and overcoming the fear of public speaking is welcome to attend. Meetings are always free and open to the public. Old Bill's Toastmasters is non-profit organization that promotes a positive learning environment. Old Bill's Toastmasters is an affiliate of Toastmasters International.

For information about the meeting and directions call Jim Hill at 761-1130. For more information about how Toastmasters can help you visit [www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org) on the Web.

### CID looking for applicants

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, better known as CID, is seeking new special agents.

CID is the Army's sole investigative agency for felony level crimes that have a military connection or serve the interest of the Army. It also provides protective services to ensure the safety and security of key leaders within the Department of Defense and Department of Army.

Newly trained special agents are involved in all types of criminal investigations but can eventually choose career specialties like polygraph examiner or forensic science officer.

CID special agents are deployed worldwide and are doing their part for the War on Terrorism in places such as the caves of Afghanistan and the streets of Iraq. Special agents also are assigned at numerous other locations stateside and overseas.

Interested Soldiers should hold the rank of specialist or sergeant, be eligible for a Top Secret clearance, have a minimum of 30 college credit hours; a GT score of 110 or higher; no adverse UCMJ or civilian court convictions; U.S. Citizenship; be at least 21 years old and have served a minimum of two years active federal service.

All applicants must have one year of civilian law enforcement experience, six months Military Police experience or six months formal internship with the local CID office.

Staff sergeants and some sergeants first class who already are members of the Military Police Regiment and Military Intelligence fields can apply and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

CID briefings are conducted at 5 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of each month in Building 496 at Fort Riley.

For more information, call the local CID Detachment sergeant, Special Agent Theresa Maag, at 239-2681.

By Jay Baker

DA Public Affairs Intern

Soldiers of the 452nd Ordnance Company began their journey to Iraq when they left Aberdeen, S.D., Aug. 6. Approximately 100 Army Reserve Soldiers came together from several other units to form the 452nd.

The unit has Soldiers from Wyoming, North Dakota, West Virginia and Montana. The Soldiers are learning to work together as a team during pre-deployment training at Fort Riley, said 1st Lt. Chad Vetter, company commander.

"We come from all over the place, but we are coming together now," said Spc. Andrea Forde, a 21-year-old ammunition specialist from North Dakota. Forde joined the Army to receive specialized training, she said. She is a firefighter in her civilian job, and she is also the unit's firefighter. Forde said she will miss her family most, but she is ready to perform her duties for her country.

Spc. Mary Beth Ryan won't have to go very far to visit family. She said she and her husband Pfc. Marcus Ryan are heading to Iraq together.

The couple met at Advanced Individual Training almost two

years ago. They were engaged last spring and were married in May 2005, Mary said.

Mary, originally from West Virginia, made the move to her husband's hometown in Fargo, N.D., last year to be near him. They both joined the 452nd Ord. Co. and found out they would be activated and sent overseas together, she said.

"Being there (overseas) together should be nice, but we will worry about each other," she said.

Ryan said she volunteered to join the 452nd after the unit was put on alert two years ago. Most of the Soldiers here expected to be mobilized when they volunteered to come to this unit, she said.

"I volunteered for this mission from my old unit so these guys would have enough people to go (overseas)," said Pfc. Damon Whitethunder, a former administration specialist from Cutbank, Mont.

Whitethunder said his first sergeant asked him if he wanted to go. After he said yes, he said he went to school and changed his specialty to an ammunition specialist.

"I just want to get over there and do something to help out my country," he said.

**Units need a lot of the right training to prepare for the global fight against terrorism. Training NCOs, what's your unit doing? Call the editor at 239-8854. Let's talk.**

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Post/Baker

Sgt. Mike Bell stares down range at his targets before he loads the 185-round belt into the squad automatic weapon during a weapons qualification Aug. 25 for the 452nd Ord.Co.



Spc. Kenneth Mullins (bottom) gets help from his assistant gunner as he qualifies on the squad automatic weapon Aug. 25. Mullins and his Reserve unit, the 452nd Ord. Co., are conducting pre-deployment training at Fort Riley. The unit fired some 32,000 rounds during the day-long training.

Post/Baker

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## Post news in brief

### Holiday alters trash pickup

The refuse collection schedule will change to accommodate the Labor Day holiday. The schedule for the holiday period is:

**Sept. 5** – No pick up. Federal Holiday in observance of Labor Day.

**Sept. 6** – Colver Manor, Main Post, Marshall Field, dumpster at Building 620.

**Sept. 7** – Ellis Heights, O'Donnell Heights, Montith Heights, Peterson Heights north of Thomas Avenue, dumpsters at Buildings 28, 45, 471, 540, 542 and 5309.

**Sept. 8** – Warner Heights, Burnside Heights, dumpster at Building 620. No change from regular schedule.

**Sept. 9** – Meade Heights, McClellan Heights, South Warner Heights, Peterson Heights south of Thomas Avenue. No change from regular schedule.

For more information, call Paul Cassella at 239-6274.

### Family program conference set

The Army Family Action Plan annual adult and youth conferences will be conducted in October to air concerns about life at Fort Riley and to suggest changes that should be made.

The Youth Action Conference will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 1 at the Teen Center, Building 5800. The Family Action Conference will run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 12-13 at Riley's Conference Center. For more information, call 239-9435.

### ACAP available for spouses

Spouses of Soldiers who plan on separating from military service or are exploring the possibility, can use the same ACAP services as that of their Soldier spouses can attend a pre-separation benefits briefing, the 3 1/2 day TAP/ACAP Job Search Workshop, job fairs or other special ACAP events and work with a professional counselors to finalize a resume and prepare for interviews.

For more information, call the ACAP Center at 239-2278 or 239-2248 or stop by the office in Room 6, Building 210 on Main Post.

### Sirens on post tested daily

The Fort Riley Operations Center is testing the tornado early warning siren system everyday following the noon mess call bugle.

Exceptions will be weekends and holidays when the FROC will run the silent test that is currently used.

### Old oil, antifreeze goes to center

Post residents are reminded to place used motor oil and antifreeze in proper containers and take them to the Automotive Skills Center, 7753 Apennines Dr. on Custer Hill, or the Household Hazardous Waste Facility at the Environmental Waste Management Center in Building 1945, Camp Funston.

It is illegal to throw used oil and antifreeze into refuse dumpsters or pour them down storm drains.

For more information, call the Automotive Skills Center at 239-9764 or 239-4028, the waste facility at 239-6797 or Jill Dalton at 239-2385.

### Irwin offers eye appointments

Military family members and military retirees can schedule optometry appointments at Irwin Army Community Hospital.

To schedule an appointment, call 239-DOCS of (888) 239-3627.

By Anna Perry  
19th PAD

While most Fort Riley Soldiers at Fort Polk's Joint Training Readiness Center are sharpening their existing skills, one Soldier is using the time to develop a new skill set and military career.

Spc. Michael Conroy, 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance), is training to make the transition from Black Hawk helicopter mechanic to crew chief.

The process, called "progression," will make Conroy a part of a team dedicated to the safe and efficient evacuation of casualties.

"I knew coming into the Army that I wanted to work on Black Hawks, but I wasn't sure whether I wanted to be a crewmember or not," Conroy said.

Before entering the military, Conroy said he enjoyed working on cars and semi-trucks in his hometown of Russellville, Mo.

"I love turning wrenches and figuring out what the problem is," he said.

After three years as a mechanic, Conroy decided to take his love of mechanics skyward.

When unit representatives asked Soldiers from the 82nd Med. Co.'s maintenance platoon if they were interested in progression, Conroy jumped at the chance to become a crew chief.

His new job would allow him to continue working on the aircraft he loved and fly with the crew.

But the road to crew chief is anything but easy.

Crew chiefs are required to attend various blocks of instruction, like air crew coordination, air/medical and night vision classes, giving them the standard information needed for pulling aviation crew duties, said Thomas.

Conroy also studied the aircraft, the mission equipment, and the weaponry that can be used on the aircraft.

In addition, Conroy earned his Combat Life Saver certification, which gives him the skills necessary to assist the medic if need be. However, Conroy said he'd prefer repairing helicopters, not people.

"I haven't ever had to put my CLS skills to use, thank goodness," Conroy said. "I've always been in a medical evacuation unit, so all I have to do is yell, 'hey, medic!'"

Though he has little interest in performing medical duties, Conroy said he accepts responsibility for the array of hats he must wear as crew chief.

The primary role of the crew chief is to troubleshoot and resolve any mechanical difficulties during flights, said Spc. Justin Thomas, 82nd Med. Co. flight instructor and crew chief. Still, there are other duties the crew chief must perform.

"The crew chief is also an extra set of eyes, and some extra knowledge for the pilot," Conroy said.

Teamwork and safety are vital to mission accomplishment.

"Flying is definitely a team effort," Conroy said. "It doesn't matter if you hate somebody on the ground, as soon as you're in the air, you work as a team because it's a matter of life or death for the crew and the patients."

As crew chief, Conroy's top priority will be safety.

"Everything in the Army is safety, safety, safety," Conroy said. "Too many soldiers get complacent and do stupid things."

Conroy's job involves scanning



19th PAD/Perry  
Spc. Michael Conroy, currently a Black Hawk helicopter mechanic for the 82nd Med. Co. (AA) trains at JRTC to become a crew chief. He expects to fully take on his new job in about a month.

in front of, behind and above the aircraft, searching for trees, wires and other potential hazards. He will also insure that all passengers and equipment are secure before the aircraft ascends.

When the air ambulance lands to pick up casualties, Conroy will help guide the litters onto the aircraft.

Conroy expects to assume his role as crew chief in about a month.

"He's right on track," said Thomas, Conroy's flight instructor. "It's a matter of making sure he's proficient, and that he understands his role on the aircraft."

Conroy said he has enjoyed his progression thus far.

"It's (flying) an adrenaline rush," Conroy said. "Especially when we're following the contour of the ground during terrain navigation... that's awesome."

At times, however, nerve-racking situations arise.

"It can be scary trying to land the helicopter in confined spaces, especially with night vision equipment," Conroy said.

Though Conroy has expressed interests in becoming a Black Hawk technical inspector or studying aviation life support, he said he's not sure if he's a career Soldier.

"At this point I don't know if I want to make the military a career or not," Conroy said.

Still for now, however, Conroy is satisfied knowing that he will soon be a member of the Black Hawk air ambulance team, prepared to transfer his comrades to safety at any time.

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# Commentary

Thursday, September 1, 2005

Fort Riley Post

Page 5

## Riley Roundtable

### This week's question:

From Soldiers at the Joint Readiness Training Center: What do you enjoy doing during your "down time"?



"I go over the next mission with the other guys and make sure that my weapon is up and ready to go."

Cpl. William Calvin  
Company A, 1st Battalion,  
34th Armor



"I don't get much down-time, but when I do I enjoy reading."

Maj. Shawn Hayes-Davis  
1st Engineer Battalion



"I like to write letters, listen to music, and get as much sleep as I can."

Spc. Stanley K. Hitchcock  
HHC, 1st Battalion,  
34th Armor



"I make sure that my Soldiers are squared away with water and showers, and I try to catch up on sleep."

Sgt. 1st Class Dana Lescoe  
34th Fire Support Engineers



"I like to read and study. I also check on my Soldiers to make sure they are drinking water, eating well and showering."

Sgt. Juan Medina-Torres  
HHC, 1st Battalion,  
34th Armor

### Next week's question:

How has closing the Henry Drive access affected your drives to and from work at Fort Riley?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at [mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil](mailto:mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil) or faxed to the editor at 239-2592. Opinions must reach the editor by close of business Tuesdays to appear in the following Friday's paper.

## Holiday Safety Take precautions for Labor Day travel

Labor Day is the holiday held in honor of you, the worker. It also represents the last big summer holiday and the start of a new school year. It is appropriate, therefore, that we recognize the tireless efforts of our Fort Riley Soldiers and civilian employees.

The Labor Day weekend is one of the busiest traveled weekends of the year. With the return of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 541st Maintenance Battalion and the 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) from their deployment to the Joint Readiness Training Center, many will travel to visit friends and family. I challenge leaders, Soldiers and civil-



Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy

ians to identify potential risks associated with their weekend activities and take the proper measures to reduce or eliminate those risks. Leaders must stress the importance of adequate rest prior to starting trips and require passes for travel outside the 250-mile radius of Fort Riley. Soldiers choosing to travel

extended distances must complete an Army Safety Management Information System Risk Assessment Tool and submit it with their leave request to their commander prior to departure.

The assessment tool - ASMSIS-1 - and briefing materials can be found on the Combat Readiness Center Web site [cra.army.mil](http://cra.army.mil).

When riding motorcycles or all-terrain vehicles, "dress for the fall." The correct personal protective equipment will lessen the severity of injuries and can save your life.

Summer weather can be deadly. Last year, Army communities suffered 11 fatalities due to heat

related injuries, 526 heat strokes and 2,150 cases of heat exhaustion.

If you participate in your various recreational activities, remember water consumption is essential. Alcohol, soda and coffee are diuretics that only magnify the effects of extreme heat.

Let us make this Labor Day holiday the fourth consecutive incident-free summer holiday weekend. Be safe.

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy  
Commanding General  
24th Inf. Div. (Mech)  
and Fort Riley

### Why I Serve

## Soldier's best reason for staying in Army

By Spc. Jennifer Fitts  
Army News Service

BAGHDAD - I've been asked before what makes me stay in the Army through what will probably be, in its entirety, an almost three-year separation from my husband, and I can't seem to explain it.

Why am I in the Army? The simple answer might be "patriotism," but there's so much more to it than that.

I am a patriot. I love my country and I'm proud of her. I'm not proud of everything that she's done, but I am proud of her as a whole.

I am proud of the ideals that my country stands for; proud of the people who, whatever background they come from, stand beside me and say "I'm an American."

I'm proud of the country that my great-grandparents risked their lives to come to from Holland, France, Poland and Russia. They saw a golden land, one where dreams grew wild in endless stretches of land.

I still see that original promise that brought them here.

I see those very same dreams, though there are days when those dreams don't shine as brightly, and I wonder if the "American Dream" is a shadow that I've been told to chase with no hope of actually catching it.

Then, the sun comes out again, and my dreams, so big that only a land as vast as America could hold them, shimmer in the sun like treasures scattered over mountains.

I love my country. I love her with a fierce pride and a passion that isn't always explainable to someone who hasn't experienced that love.

I love my country enough to answer her call, to put my civil-

ian life on hold to respond to the burden she asks me to pick up, regardless of whether I agree with why she's asking me.

I love her enough to wear a uniform and to possibly give my life in her service.

But there's more to staying in the Army than that.

It's more than a need to give back to my country somehow that keeps me in the Army.

It's not the pay, although for the first time in my adult life I am totally out of debt and living more than just barely above the poverty level.

It's not the education benefits, because I earned them after my first enlistment.

It's not the medical care necessarily, because as a National Guard member I don't get many medical "bennies" when I'm not activated.

It's the people - the Soldiers - the good, the bad and the indifferent.

It's that human factor that reaches across backgrounds and educations and lives and binds us together.

No matter how fragile those bonds seem, they're everlasting. Get a group of people together and the Soldiers and veterans will congregate, usually trading "No kidding, there I was" stories peppered with obscure acronyms and coarse language.

It's a uniquely shared set of experiences, shared by individuals who are, forever afterward, part of something bigger than themselves. It's something that honestly defies my attempts to catalogue, classify or quantify. It's almost impossible to truly dissect.

I've been asked if I could find such fulfilling camaraderie in another field, and I probably could, as long as certain parameters were met. My alternative calling would have to be chal-

lenging, both physically and emotionally, and involve things that should suck, but somehow don't.

I'd require that my other calling involve daily "somethings" that, with rare exception, leave me dirty, tired and pissed off at stupid stuff but has me laughing my butt off at the end of the day.

...

I could probably find that dream job somewhere else, but I love Soldiers like no one I've ever loved before. They are, in my mind, my family. I've been through so many things with other Soldiers. I've been hurt by other Soldiers and also held up by Soldiers when I thought I couldn't take any more.

I've fallen in love with a Soldier, someone who understands the why, the what, and the how of the Army, and I wouldn't trade

that for anything.

I've cried because of my love of the Army and I've experienced anguished heartbreak, enduring personal sacrifices that made me doubt my future in the military.

I've laughed and cried and made friends who will be part of my life until the day I die.

So, yes, I am a patriot.

But the men and women in uniform beside me show me why I'm proud of my country. My fellow Soldiers remind me day in and day out why it is that I love America and why I stay in the Army.

For that, I thank them.

Spc. Jennifer Fitts is an Army journalist with the 100th MPAD. Her article first appeared in the *Maine Express*, a weekly newspaper for Task Force Baghdad and the 3rd Infantry Division.

### Grunt By Wayne Udden



### FORT RILEY POST

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Your name (optional) and phone number (if you would like to talk about your ideas): \_\_\_\_\_





# R&R leave hits milestone with 250,000th participant

## Army Public Affairs

The U.S. Army announced today a significant milestone in the successful operation of the U.S. Central Command's Rest and Recuperation Leave Program, by serving the 250,000th participant since the program's inception Sept. 25, 2003.

Army Cpl. James Holcombe, 20th Engineer Brigade in Iraq, has been identified as the 250,000th passenger.

Army officials commemorated the milestone briefly in Kuwait as the Soldier prepared to depart for leave. The ceremony was held at Ali Al Salem, a new facility which opened Aug. 16.

Holcombe was scheduled to land the morning of Aug. 22 at Hartsfield-Jackson International

Airport in Atlanta, Ga., with his final leave destination in Birmingham, Ala.

Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb, commanding general of Third U.S. Army, will host a ceremony at the airport in Atlanta upon the Soldier's arrival.

The commemorative event begins at 9 a.m., in the airport's Executive Conference Center located in the main passenger terminal Atrium on the third floor. Senior officials from Washington, D.C., the state of Georgia and the city of Atlanta are also scheduled to attend.

The gifts that the Soldier will receive for being the 250,000th participant include a \$100 gift certificate to use at any Army and Air Force Exchange Service facility, such as a Post Exchange (PX), and

a trip for two anywhere in the United States from SATO Travel, the military's contracted travel agency.

Approximately 550 service members fly home on R&R leave daily as they take part in the R&R Leave Program.

Two aircraft fly troops from Kuwait City International Airport to two gateways in the United States, one in Atlanta, Ga., the other in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. There is no cost to the Soldier for the roundtrip airfare.

This celebration is a testament to the many organizations, government and civilian agencies, military commands, military personnel, DOD civilians, the contract and commercial airlines and many others who help to make this all possible.



Post-Gomez

## High jump

Spc. Jonathon Scanlon and his horse, Cincinnati, of the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard and fellow Guard members participated in the Northeast Kansas Hunter Jumper Association and Flint Hills Pony Club Jumper Show Aug. 28 at High Horse Stables in Manhattan. The Color Guard was invited to participate and showed in exhibition in two classes. Six riders and horses competed. It was a first jumping competition for most and really tested the riders and horses skills and agility, said Capt. Cayla Slusher, commander of the unit. The show was used a training tool in preparation for the U.S. Cavalry Association National Cavalry Competition in September.

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post. service directory





# Engineer dreams of being film producer

**Sgt David Kerr**  
70th Eng. Bn.

BAGHDAD — Is there a future Steven Spielberg hidden among the Army's ranks in Iraq?

Walk into 1st Lt. John Prettyman's room and you might start to think so. You won't find the normal pictures or calendars hanging on the walls. Instead, Prettyman, of the 70th Engineer Battalion, has news articles that have captured his interest neatly taped to the white fiberboard wall. Piled on a cot, you'll see a computer, editing decks and perhaps the latest issue of *Moviemaker* magazine.

You'll also find a camera which can fit in the palm of a hand. This is how Prettyman is pursuing a dream that began in junior high.

The Tacoma, Wash., native has devoted his spare time in Iraq to creating a film of Soldiers' experiences in war.

Prettyman was born in California, land of big movie stars and even bigger starry-eyed dreams.

Though he had creative aspirations, he majored in biology when he attended Pacific Lutheran University. He was an average student, never really fitting in and feeling as though something was missing, he said.

That changed when he attended the Army Officers Basic Course and shot a short film of his classmates.

Prettyman's film was shown during the graduation ceremony and he had his first taste of the future when fellow officers later came up and asked for his autograph.

He filmed another short movie of his unit during his first combat tour in Iraq in 2003. The film, a comedy reminiscent of National Lampoon, was seen by virtually the entire 70th Engineer Battalion upon their return.

"It had a lot of good special effects," said Sgt. Trinidad Rangel, of Oxnard, Calif. "He does good work."

Prettyman thought it was nice to be able to show the families and friends of Soldiers serving in war what the deployed engineers

did to burn off steam.

Currently deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom 3, he has not missed the opportunity to work on yet another a film showing the day-to-day lives of the Soldiers of the 70th Engineers.

His focus this rotation is to show the surreal environment faced every day, in a multitude of situations, during numerous missions the Soldiers perform.

"I really didn't want to do anything that anybody has seen before," Prettyman said. "The focus is more on the mind of the Soldier. It follows two Soldiers as they go through the year."

Prettyman plans to further his education and seek a degree in film studies. He envisions himself starting out filming independent movies, working toward the day when he can get work as a film producer.

He says the military has given him the confidence and aggression to seek out what he wants. He feels he now has the courage to move into the market with a Soldier's battle cry.



Courtesy photo

1st Lt. John Prettyman of the 70th Eng. Bn., reviews scripts in his makeshift studio in Camp Taji, Iraq. Prettyman is working on a film showing Soldiers' daily lives while deployed.

## Campaign focuses on prospects, influencer

**By Donna Miles**  
AFPS

WASHINGTON — Army advertising aimed at parents, teachers, coaches and other adults who influence young people's decisions regarding military service appears to be gaining momentum as part of the overall "Army of One" recruiting campaign, the director of the Army's strategic outreach effort said Aug. 30.

The Army launched four new commercials in April that specifically target adult influencers, an increasing number of whom have never served in the military and don't fully understand it or the benefits of military service, Army Col. Thomas Nicholson, of U.S. Army Accessions Command, said during a joint interview with the Pentagon Channel and American

Forces Press Service.

While no one aspect of the total campaign can be evaluated separately from the others, Nicholson said, early indications are that in the months since the new ads began appearing, recruiting numbers and visits to the Army recruiting Web site are up.

"From just two or three months, we've seen some indication that the campaign as a whole is working harder for us," he said.

Nicholson called the new ads "the latest evolution" of the Army's overall recruiting campaign, which encourages prospective recruits and their adult influencers alike to talk to a recruiter to learn more about the Army and what it has to offer.

The program's goal is for prospective recruits to consider Army service and ideally, to

enlist, he said, and for their adult influencers to support, and ideally, to encourage, that decision.

"It focuses on providing information to both prospects and influencers and, most importantly, encouraging them to seek more information about the tangible and intangible benefits of military service," Nicholson said.

In addition, he said, the ads "define what it is to be a soldier and the value of becoming a soldier."

The new commercials build on a previous campaign launched during the 2004 National College Athletic Association basketball tournament.

That campaign focused on what the Army can offer future soldiers — from money for college to job training and character building — in an effort to help par-

## Fall clean-up announced

Fort Riley will be conducting the annual fall clean-up Sept. 26-30. The clean-up is designed to improve the appearance of the installation and post training areas and will involve all Soldiers and families on Fort Riley.

For more information on how to get involved, contact your unit S3, your housing area mayor, or call Justin Carter at 239-2222.

CENTURY 21  
6 x 2"  
Black Only  
602 Cent21 8/26 6892 ml

FAITH FURNITURE  
3 x 8"  
Black Only  
3x8 Faith Furniture

CENTRAL MICHIGAN U/OCP  
3 x 8"  
Black Only  
3x8 C Mich Univ 9/2 7285 ml





## Snapshots from Iraq



*100th MPAD/Bromley*  
Capt. Jason Belknap (left), Civil Affairs Officer for 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division and Fred Nightengale, a civilian employee of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, survey the town of Jorfa Melleb in the rural area of Taji, Iraq. Soldiers of the 490th Civil Affairs Battalion, 4th Bn., 1st FA, 1st Bn., 118th FA, and the Army Corps of Engineers conducted a civil affairs survey of the rural areas around Camp Taji, Aug. 13.

Spc. Joshua Kieselhorst a Field Artillery Surveyor A Company, 1st Battalion, 118th Field Artillery Regiment, Georgia Army National Guard, with his shotgun at the ready, provides mounted security for a humanitarian mission in the village of Jorfa Melleb near Taji, Iraq.  
*100th MPAD/Bromley*



*100th MPAD/Bromley*  
Spc. Victor Montellano, a civil affairs specialist from Team A, 490th Civil Affairs Battalion, claps as children of a rural village near Taji, Iraq sing and dance. Montellano, a native of Glen Rose, Texas, is deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 3 with 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division. Soldiers of the 490th Civil Affairs Battalion and the 1st Battalion, 118th Field Artillery Regiment, and the Army Corps of Engineers conducted a civil affairs survey of the rural areas around Camp Taji. The surveys help 3rd Bde., 1st AD, identify social, economic and health problems in their area of operations.

20TH CENTURY  
3 x 10.5"  
Black Only  
#597251 Transporter 2

USADISCOUNTERS  
3 x 10.5"  
Black Only  
B&W/3x10.5/Sept. 05







CUSTOM MEDIA SOLUTIONS/USSP1  
6 x 21.25"  
Black Only  
Daimler Chrysler





Members of the Iraqi Highway Patrol unfurl the national flag atop the new Iraqi Highway Patrol Headquarters in Baghdad Aug. 25 in preparation for its grand opening ceremony.

## Iraq Highway Patrol HQ opens

*By Lynne Steely*  
*Army News Service*

**BAGHDAD** – The Iraqi Highway Patrol officially opened its new headquarters during a ribbon-cutting ceremony Aug. 25 in Baghdad.

The location was chosen back in February by members of the 18th Military Police Brigade in coordination with the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq Civil Affairs and the IHP. The Iraqi government-owned site was once a special police training compound under the former regime. Construction was underway by April and completed in late July.

The new headquarters is well received by the officers who officially moved in and began operations from it on July 30. The building previously occupied by the IHP consisted of four ramshackle rooms in a dilapidated building owned by the Baghdad Major Crimes Unit, located in an extremely dangerous neighborhood. The facility was a frequent target of insurgent attacks.

The new building has running water, flushing toilets and electricity; commonplace commodities for the average American but a luxury for many Iraqi's. It is also more spacious, enabling the officers to conduct maintenance and small-scale training.

The cost of the renovation totaled approximately \$2 million, part of the Iraqi Relief and Reconstruction Fund allocated by U.S. Congress for the rebuilding of Iraq. The project included the overhaul of eight buildings, 11 guard tow-

ers, a surrounding wall, new security gates, sewage system, water, and electricity.

The Iraqi police are not the only ones to benefit from this large-scale project, however. Outlying communities have also gained many important, long-term advantages.

"There is now an increased police presence in a neighborhood that desperately needed it," said Maj. Andy Johnson, Civil Affairs Officer for the 18th MP Brigade. "The surrounding neighborhoods have also gained a working sewer system, running water and electricity." The project has also provided employment to over 200 Iraqi workers for over five months, Johnson said.

The site is large enough for future expansion as Iraq's security forces grow, and its location is ideal due to the ease of highway access and proximity to the local airport.

The violence facing this group of Iraqi police officers on a daily basis has now decreased to a degree. The headquarters is no longer positioned on a main highway as was the previous one, where drive-by shootings and small arms attacks were almost a daily occurrence.

This is a major step toward consolidating Iraqi control over the security of the main highways and commercial arteries in Iraq said Johnson.

Johnson and his team monitored the construction process on a near daily basis and ensured there was adequate security at the site.

Since December, the 18th has overseen the start of at least six other highway patrol stations which are currently under construction between the Kuwaiti border and Baghdad. Upon completion, there will be one station located every 50-60 kilometers.

Lt. Gen. David Petraeus, MNSTC-I commander, gave a special thank you to Johnson and 18th MP Bde. commander, Col. Jim Brown, for their tremendous efforts throughout the past year, helping to transform the IHP.

Petraeus also commended IHP Commissioner Maj. Gen. Ali Al Khazali and the officers of the Highway Patrol for their spirit and dedication.

Petraeus also stressed the importance of honesty, integrity and cooperation within the organization, with fair and impartial treatment to all Iraqi's "to continue the already courageous path of the IHP."

"The enemies of democracy do not want to see Iraq improve. You have shown you are ready to meet the challenge. Let me say shukran (thank you) for your service to your country."

## Iraqi citizens help nab terrorism suspects

*Task Force Baghdad PAO*

BAGHDAD — Iraqi Army and Coalition Forces, working together and independently, took 19 suspected terrorists into custody while conducting a series of combat operations in and around Baghdad Aug. 21.

Tips received from Iraqi citizens led to the detention of 12 of the 19 terror suspects.

Thirteen of the suspects were captured during five pre-dawn raids carried out in west, central and south Baghdad. Iraqi Army and Task Force Baghdad Soldiers also seized a computer, two AK-47 assault rifles and improvised

explosive device fuses during the raids.

The largest operation of the day was carried out at noon by Iraqi Army and Task Force Baghdad Soldiers working together.

Acting on information provided by another Iraqi citizen, Soldiers searched an anti-Iraqi forces safe-house in south Baghdad and captured six suspects thought to be involved in terrorist activities.

At about the same time, Task Force Baghdad Soldiers manning a traffic control point stopped a vehicle at a busy intersection in east Baghdad. When the Soldiers searched the car, they found a shotgun and four pistols hidden

inside.

The patrol detained the suspect and brought him into custody for questioning.

In other combat operations, a Task Force Baghdad unit patrolling in northwest Baghdad struck an IED. No one was injured in the attack, and when the Soldiers searched a nearby house they found an AK-47 assault rifle and a machine gun with 10 ammunition magazines. The unit also found binoculars, a periscope and 40 to 50 circuit boards which could have been used to detonate bombs. The patrol took the owner of the house into custody for questioning.



100th MPAD/Wester

## On the defense

1st Lt. Troy E. Mathis (right), from Pocahontas, Tenn., and Pfc. James A. Wilson, from Hayward, Wis., participate in a base defense exercise at Camp Taji Aug. 8. Both Soldiers are members of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS- THAYER  
3 x 10.5"  
Black Only  
3X10.5 Charter 9/2 6940 ml

CALLAGHAN FRAN  
1 x 4"  
Black Only  
1X4 Fran Callag 8/19 6735 ml

WALKER JIM  
3 x 4.5"  
Black Only  
3x4.5SaturnTop8/28Walker

STANDARD PLUMBING  
2 x 5"  
Black Only  
2X5 Standard 8/5 6391 ml



## Iraqi Army Soldiers showcase capabilities during raids

The 3rd Iraqi Army Battalion working with U.S. troops from 1st Brigade Combat Team of Multi-National Division Central South carried out a raid one kilometer south of Mashru, Iraq, Aug. 28.

Twelve suspects were detained during the cordon-and-search operation. Iraqi soldiers also confiscated eight AK-47 assault rifles and 10 hand grenades. The raid was conducted in response to a small-arms attack earlier in the day against an Iraqi Army patrol. There were no injuries from the attack.

This success demonstrates the Iraqi Army's growing capability to quickly respond to insurgent violence, according to officials, and illustrates the improving ability of Iraqi soldiers to provide a safe and secure environment for the Iraqi people.

Also, Iraqi Army soldiers conducted a cordon-and-search operation in Khadasia, six kilometers north of Tikrit on Aug. 28, in an effort to locate a known improvised-explosive-device manufacturer, according to a multinational forces report.

Soldiers with 1st Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division, detained 11 suspected insurgents during the search. Soldiers also found one AK-47, two shotguns, one vehicle and a large sum of money. The main target of the search, an IED builder, was captured, along with an anti-Iraqi force financier.

No injuries or damages were reported.

## U.S. Ambassador: Constitution meets basic needs for Iraq

The draft constitution signed in Iraq today provides a strong basis for further progress in Iraq and will adapt to remain relevant as the country changes, the U.S. ambassador to Iraq said Aug. 28.

On NBC's "Meet the Press," Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad said that even though not all parties are completely satisfied with the draft, it represents a "synthesis between the universal principles of democracy and human rights, and Iraqi traditions and Islam." He said that, like all constitutions, this is not a one-time document and will be revised as necessary in the future.

The draft establishes Islam as the official religion of Iraq, but also says that no law can be made that is against the practices of democracy or in violation of human rights, Khalilzad said. He said the draft recognizes equality of men and women, disallows discrimination and family violence, and encourages women's participation in politics.

This draft is a reconciliation between the various factions in Iraq, Khalilzad said, and sets a new pattern for the Middle East.

## 1,000 security detainees released from Abu Ghraib prison

Coalition officials have released nearly 1,000 detainees from Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison over the past week, officials in Baghdad, Iraq, announced.

At the request of and with the assistance of the Iraqi government, Multinational Force Iraq accelerated the "Combined Review and Release Board" process to expedite the detainees' release from the Abu Ghraib Theater Internment Facility from Aug. 24-27. Representing all Iraqi communities, the detainees were brought to Abu Ghraib from detention facilities throughout Iraq.

This major release, the largest to date, marks a significant event in Iraq's progress toward democratic governance and the rule of law, demonstrating the involvement of Iraq's government in the effort to provide both security and justice for all Iraqis, military officials said.

Those chosen for release are not guilty of serious, violent crimes, such as bombing, torture, kidnapping or murder, and all have admitted their crimes, renounced violence and pledged to be good citizens of a democratic Iraq.

Their cases were carefully reviewed on an individual basis by a combined board of Iraqi and coalition officials and decided in light of Iraq's ongoing efforts to create peace and stability and build a brighter future for its citizens, officials said.

## Preparations for Iraq elections not disrupted in north-central area

Despite continued efforts, insurgents have been unable impact preparations for elections in the north-central region of Iraq, and that region has a strong plan in place for security during elections scheduled in Iraq in October and December, the commander of U.S. operations in the area said Aug. 26.

U.S. forces have been concentrating on training Iraqi forces, and collectively, a plan has been made for election security that leaves all parties assured, said Army Maj. Gen. Joseph Taluto, commander of Multinational Division North Central and Task Force Liberty.

"We're comfortable with our election security plan," Taluto told reporters in the Pentagon via an audio feed from Forward Operating Base Dager, in Tikrit, Iraq. "We're very focused."

Iraqi leaders in the area are confident about the elections, mainly because they remember the success they had in the Jan. 30 elections, Taluto said. Confidence is also derived from the better equipped and trained Iraqi security forces, a stronger independent electoral commission, and the growing sense of support for the elections among Iraqi citizens, he added.

As the elections draw nearer, insurgent attacks most likely will increase, Taluto said, but U.S. and Iraqi forces are capable of responding and keeping the area secure.

*Editor's note: News items were compiled from American Forces Press Service and Army News Service releases.*

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202 Adult Learning 8/12 6590

# Army colonel receives DSC

By Sgt. Lorie Jewell  
Army News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq – The Distinguished Service Cross, second only to the Medal of Honor in military decorations – has been awarded to U.S. Army Col. James H. Coffman Jr. for his role in leading Iraqi Special Police Commandos through a 5 1/2-hour battle against insurgents trying to overrun an Iraqi police station.

Flanked by the commando unit Coffman fought with, U.S. Army Gen. George Casey, commander of Multi-National Forces-Iraq, pinned the cross and eagle medal on Coffman's body armor during an Aug. 24 ceremony at Adhon Palace in Baghdad's International Zone. Iraq's Minister of Interior, Bayan Jabr, and a number of other high-ranking Iraqi and Coalition leaders also attended the ceremony.

"It's humbling to me, to be in the company of heroes," Casey said, noting Coffman's extraordinary heroism in the battle that killed 12 Iraqi commandos and wounded 24. "Such exemplary conduct is a great example to Iraqi commandos and to all American Soldiers and warriors."

Coffman, 51, is a senior adviser to Iraqi Special Police Commandos with the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq's Civilian Police Assistance Training Team. He accompanied a commando Quick Reaction Force with the 3rd Battalion, 1st Iraqi Special Police Commando Brigade on Nov. 14, 2004 to help a commando platoon under attack in a Mosul, Iraq police station.

As the QRF approached the station, it was besieged with rocket-propelled grenades, small arms fire and mortar rounds. Coffman and the commandos fought the insurgents for four hours before help arrived. When the initial firefight killed or seriously wounded all but one of the commando officers, Coffman rallied the remaining commandos while trying to radio for assistance, according to his award citation.

"Under heavy fire, he moved from commando to commando, looking each in the eye and using hand and arm signals to demonstrate what he wanted done," the citation said.

When an enemy round shattered his left shooting hand, damaging his M4 rifle in the process, Coffman banded it and continued fighting with AK-47 rifles he collected from commando casualties until each ran out of ammunition. He also passed out ammunition to the uninjured commandos with the help of the remaining commando officer, when all that remained were loose rounds. Coffman held magazines between his legs and loaded the rounds with his good hand.

When a second commando unit arrived four hours after the fight began, Coffman led them to his position and continued to fight, refusing to be evacuated for treatment until the battle was over. Not long after the commando reinforcements arrived, air support and a Stryker Brigade Quick Reaction Force were on hand to assist to assist in the battle.

Coffman supervised the evacuation of injured commandos and led another group of commandos to the police station to make contact

MYERS INSURANCE AGENCY  
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ANS/Jewell  
U.S. Army Gen. George Casey, commander of Multi-National Forces-Iraq, congratulates Col. James H. Coffman Jr. after pinning him with the Distinguished Service Cross.

with the Iraqi Police inside. Once the additional air and ground support elements began attacking buildings the enemy forces were hiding in, Coffman went back to his initial position to check on the injured commandos and then agreed to be evacuated for treatment. Twenty-five insurgents were killed and dozens injured.

"Col. Coffman, the blood you shed will never be forgotten," said Jabr, the Interior Minister. "We, the forces of the (Ministry of Interior) and the (Ministry of Defense) will continue to fight until we defeat terrorism. Right will always defeat wrong."

In remarks during the ceremony, Coffman praised the commandos for their service and commitment to defending freedom in Iraq. He also said he viewed the ceremony as a tribute to the Iraqi and Coalition forces that have fought, bled and died together.

"Third battalion, I am truly, truly honored to stand here with you today and remember your courage and bravery last November and in all the days since then," Coffman said, facing the commando formations. "It has been an honor to fight with you."

Jabr and Iraqi Maj. Gen. Adhon Thebit, commander of the Special Police Forces, each presented Coffman with medallions.

Prior to the ceremony, Coffman said surgery repaired the shattered bones in his hand but it still isn't back to 100 percent. In the months he's had to reflect on the battle, Coffman said his focus continues to be on the courage and exemplary performance of the Iraqi commandos he fought with.

"I'm very proud of them, and more importantly, they're proud of themselves," Coffman said. "The next day, they were back out on patrol – after suffering 30 to 50 percent casualties. That's pretty amazing. I'm not sure American units would do that. That says something about their resilience and their ability to maintain morale. They certainly mourned their losses, but they got back into

for him," Paris said. "He is the example for me being here. A lot of people talk the talk, but he walks the walk. He has a real Soldier's mentality – cut through the B.S. and get the mission done, no matter what it takes."

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Taloc Cutrono feels honored to have been able to serve with Coffman and appreciates the trust Coffman placed with him.

"He has allowed me to be privy to major Iraqi developments and security solutions," Cutrono said. "I have sat in on meetings and he's been able to serve with Coffman and appreciate the trust Coffman placed with him."

Coffman enlisted in the Army in 1972 in Great Barrington, Mass., where he grew up. The tangible benefits – learning a skill and college tuition – drew him into the service. But gaining an understanding of what being a Soldier means kept him in uniform for more than 30 years.

"The idea of selfless service and patriotism takes over," Coffman said. "I like that."

Coffman has a Bachelor of Science degree in Chinese Area Studies from the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and a Master of Science degree in National Security Affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, Calif. He was also a U.S. Army Fellow at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University in Medford, Mass., and attended the Boston University Overseas Program for Master of Science in International Relations in Vicenza, Italy.

His military career has taken him from Fort Bragg, N.C.; Tampa, Fla. and Washington, D.C.

to more far-flung locations like Italy, Korea and Germany. Along with the Distinguished Service Cross, Coffman's other awards include the Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge and Special Forces and Ranger Tabs.

Coffman will have to retire in three years, but he figures he still has one more overseas tour in him. He isn't sure it will be in Iraq, though.

"If asked, I would find it hard to say no," Coffman said. "I have a lot of respect for a lot of the Iraqis. They have a tough time ahead of them."

Coffman doesn't believe democracy can be fast-tracked here. The United States had to work through several years of contentious issues – including a Civil War – before it enjoyed a stable democratic government.

"It's easy when you've had a couple centuries of experience with democracy to overlook the difficulties in getting that," Coffman said. "I can't think of a nobler endeavor than to help 28 million people achieve it."

(Editor's note: Sgt. Lorie Jewell serves with the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq Public Affairs.)

COTTONWOOD THEATERS  
1 x 3"  
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1x3 COTTONWOOD SEPT

SCREEN MACHINE  
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2x4 1st Assen/God Sept. TF



# Observing Training



Sgt. Daniel Sweeney, a member of the personal security detachment, stands ready to defend visiting community leaders visiting to observe 1st Bde. training.



Community leaders visiting Fort Polk, La. to observe 1st Bde. training had the opportunity to watch brigade officials interact with the mayor of a local Iraqi village.



Manhattan City Commissioner Mike Kearns checks out his lunch, a Meal-Ready-to-Eat provided to him by the 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery. Kearns, a retired colonel, is with the Staff Judge Advocate's office.

## Community leaders visit 1st BCT, watch Soldiers train for deployment

Story and Photos by Gary Skidmore  
Command Information Officer

A delegation of 10 community leaders traveled to Fort Polk, Louisiana Aug. 19 to witness first-hand the training 1st Brigade Soldiers are going through.

Dubbed "Operation Community Handshake," the trip's purpose was to develop cooperation and understanding between Fort Riley and the local community.

The trip was a way to develop and maintain an effective two-way channel of communication so any issues that may come up between the installation and surrounding communities may be resolved together, with mutual goals in mind, said Maj. Christian Kubik, Fort Riley Public Affairs Officer.

"At Fort Riley, we consider ourselves fortunate that the community consistently champions our installation and mission, and we know that good relations are sustained by involving folks outside the gate in everything we do inside," Kubik said.

On hand to greet and initially brief the visitors at Fort Polk, Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley explained that although Fort Riley was a premiere training facility, Fort Polk was better suited in preparing the brigade for its pending rotation to Iraq later this year.

"We obviously do a lot of great training at home station," Hardy said. "Individual training as well as collective training at all levels of our organization, but this is the capstone program for any unit."

"We bring units here to do the final mission rehearsals. This is where a brigade combat team comes together and works a set of missions replicating what we think we're really going to be doing in Iraq," Hardy said. "This place really brings that training capability to life."

The training is so realistic, more than 800 civilian contractors have been hired to play the role of Iraqi citizens, many of which the Soldiers will interact with on a daily basis performing their day-to-day missions.

"We're in the process of conducting and integrating ourselves into the local populations and helping them rebuild their infrastructure," said Maj. Gregory Skelly, brigade S1. "We're guarding some of the towns high risk targets and learning to take control of our area as another unit leaves for its rotation home."

"This is real training," Skelly said. "This is as real as it can get. Not long after we moved out here, I had an encounter with a local sheik. I had an interpreter and a couple of objectives I was supposed to come out of the meeting with, while at the same time there was a riot going on with local Iraqis and to make the situation worst, one of our 'Humvees' hit a little boy. The sheik was angry and wanted us to stop patrolling and leave his area."

"It's real life training here," Skelly said. "It's real training

because the sheik was hard nosed and not going to budge an inch. We just had to keep talking and keep the communication lines open."

The visiting delegation was not just on a fact finding, informational trip, they were also used to help train the brigade staff, Skelly said.

"The visitors actually were representing a congressional delegation which we will have visit us when we are deployed," Skelly said.

Skelly said when they do get visitors in Iraq, they'll be responsible for providing security and take them around to meet various local community leaders during their visit.

"The leaders who visited our 1st Brigade's training gained a powerful impression of the rigorous and realistic training that Soldiers undergo in preparation for combat," Kubik said.

"What impressed the community leaders the most, however, was the command and control, logistics and medical support our units and leaders provide for the Soldiers on the ground. Beyond this, though, these leaders realized that the public's support for our Soldiers and for Fort Riley is truly critical to our country's success."

John Walters, President of the Fort Riley Chapter of the Association of the United States Army said the trip gave him a better understanding of the advanced training Soldiers today receive.

"This is phenomenal training," Walters said. "Our troops are receiving the kind of training here that will prepare them for not only the fight in Iraq but prepare them to handle any sort of situation worldwide."

"In addition, you can see a lot of technological applications here that could be applied to the business world," he said. "There is an awful lot of forward thinking here. It's just amazing."

"I'm glad these guys are on our side with their technology and organization," said Terry Heldstab, Junction City commissioner. "It's just incredible to see the leadership; to see the soldiers; to get to eat with them and hear their stories... this has been a great experience."

Ron Walker, USD 475 superintendent, went on the trip to better understand how he and his school district could better serve the families left behind.

"We have a lot of families who are deployed and we take care of their kids," Walker said. "This trip is helping me better see exactly what they're going through and how we can best serve the children back home and keep them safe and really let them have as normal life as possible."

"The young guys here understand their roles. They understand their mission and they have a responsibility to do the best they can and then have their particular role fold into the larger mission."

"Everyone here has a sense of duty, a sense of responsibility and they're doing their very best so the greater mission does not suffer," Walker said.



## Chaplaincy, military promote similar values

By *Spc. Tremeshia Ellis*  
19th PAD

FORT POLK, La. — As 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized), Soldiers hone their warfighting skills at the Joint Readiness Training Center, military chaplains make their rounds to ensure Soldiers are spiritually fit as well as technically and tactically strong.

Chaplains from several units are supporting the brigade's rotation, said Chap. (Capt.) Michael Derienzo of the 1st Engineer Battalion.

Chaplain teams led by 1st Bde. Chap. (Maj.) Nathan Zimmerman include Chap. (Capt.) Brian Oh, Chap. (Capt.) George Okoth and Chap. (Capt.) Ted Parks and their assistants.

When people are spiritually healthy, they are more effective and more grounded in all their life goals, including their vocations, Zimmerman said.

"I think most leaders realize the importance of religion and spirituality in a Soldier's life," Derienzo said.

Soldiers of any faith group can approach a chaplain with any number of issues from personal problems in their units or at home or religious questions and the conversations are privileged, in most cases, he added.

"As a Christian, Jesus Christ said the most important commandment is to love God and to love one another," he said. Derienzo honors that commandment by taking care of Soldiers.

"Whether or not I believe the same as a Soldier, part of loving them is allowing them to express their faith," Derienzo said. "Whether or not I agree with their faith is irrelevant. My job is to provide.

"I get to love them by making sure they're comfortable and have their rights, freedoms and enjoy the satisfaction and fulfillment that comes with pursuing faith," he added.

The military chaplaincy is one where pastors and different leaders get to be very close with their troops and get to know them day by day and be there to create and protect opportunity to express their faiths that otherwise wouldn't happen, he said.

Chaplains offer a wide variety of services including formal worship, less formal conversations, devotional spot checks, ministry

of presence, which means being there at the right place at the right time checking on issues of morale and welfare, he said.

Making sure Soldiers know about those services is a top priority for Derienzo and the other chaplains on the rotation, he said.

Derienzo said he walks through the motor pools and tent areas to talk with Soldiers.

"I make sure I'm getting contact with them even if it's just to say, 'Hello, how are you?' so that some of the issues can come up and I'm available," he said.

He and Chap. (Capt.) Ted Parks, the 1st Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, chaplain, alternately check on the attached units without chaplains to make sure their needs are being met as well, he said.

He also stressed the importance of training chaplain's assistants and other individuals to recognize and help chaplains find those in need of guidance or assistance.

"Sometimes Soldiers just need a pat on the back or a smile," he added.

Derienzo said he finds satisfaction in his role as a military officer and a man of the cloth and sees similarities in the roles.

"As we're centered on God rather than on ourselves, we have increasing confidence and joy, and a chaplain can help folks look outside of themselves and encourage them to see the bigger picture and the greater cause," he said.

"A lot of us are in the military of this, and sometimes when we're uncomfortable it leads to an inward focus," he said. "A chaplain is one of those who can help point towards greater causes."

The Army values of selfless service, leadership, duty, honor all remind him of his faith, Derienzo said. "So it's an honor to point them (Soldiers) in the things they say and do towards Christ."

It is Derienzo's desire that Soldiers will find satisfaction, joy and inner strength to overcome their challenges through faith, he said.

Still, JRTC is a training mission for chaplains as well.

"As chaplains, we need to practice our mission-essential tasks," he said. "We need to rehearse. One of the neat things is as I learn my job and how to do it in a deployment situation, there's real ministry going on," he said. "As we're tuned for the future, in the present, peoples' needs are being met."

FELDKAMPS HOME FURNISHING  
4 x 21.25"

YELLOW 4X21.5



19th PAD/Tamez

A squad from Co. A, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., prepares to attack an enemy position during a live-fire exercise at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

## LFX

continued from page 1

expect when they deploy. He added that the training received at the LFX is based on real-life events that occurred in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Many different scenarios were set up, allowing different types of training for different sized elements, Kegley said. "This training instructs platoons on how to overcome the enemy, trains multiple companies in movement over obstacles and allows for individual company movement," he said.

Ultimately, Kegley said he believes the training reinforces a sense of duty to the unit and emphasizes the importance of the battle-buddy system.

"You have to have the confidence to trust your buddy," Kegley said. "If you can't trust your buddy to your left and to your right, you can't perform as a team."

The same is true on a larger scale, he added. A company must

have confidence in the abilities of its platoons to get the job done. "This training is a must," he said.

The scenarios at the LFX come from news reports and from Soldiers who have served various theaters in the Global War on Terror, Quintania said.

The integration of lessons learned in theater, combined with nearly \$200,000 spent on new site construction and renovations to existing training sites, has made JRTC an effective training facility.

Quintania said this allows multiple scenarios to run at different locations, which adds to the realism of the training environment. The results speak for themselves, he added.

"Every unit that has come through here has told us that this is the best and most realistic training they could have gotten before deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan," Quintania said.





## Bridge

continued from page 1

Coordination is being made with the Kansas Department of Transportation for signage to be installed on Interstate 70 to direct east and west bound traffic, Scruggs said. Traffic on I-70 will be rerouted to exit 296, Washington Street, or exit 303 to Kansas Highway 18 to use Fort Riley's 12th Street access point. Deliveries and heavy truck traffic will remain unchanged and continue to use exit 303 to K-18 to the 12th Street access point.

### Guidance

Fort Riley's Provost Marshal Office gives the following guidance:

- Visitors can get day passes at Ogden, Henry and Trooper access points, which will remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Grant Avenue access point will be open from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- Department of Defense vehicles only can enter through Estes and Rifle access points, which will be open from 5 to 9:30 a.m. and also from 3 to 6 p.m.
- The 12th Street access point will be open from 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and visitors can obtain passes during this time.
- Vehicle registration will move from Henry access point to 12th Street access point and will operate from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Soldiers, families and civilians will no longer be able to obtain vehicle registration 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- During the bridge work, Marshall Army Airfield will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for residents and employees living and working there and the entrance gate will be along Marshall Avenue.
- Deliveries to Marshall Army Airfield will be manually inspected.



While the 40-year old bridges on Henry Drive are currently deemed safe, the bridge decking and steel girders are starting to show visible deterioration and corrosion.



Post/Blackmon

## Hurricane response showcases Guard's state, federal capabilities

By Donna Miles

AFPS

WASHINGTON — The National Guard's solid response to Hurricane Katrina demonstrates that the Guard is still fully capable of responding to stateside emergencies while supporting the war in terror overseas, the chief of the National Guard Bureau told the American Forces Press Service Aug. 30.

Army Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum described the thousands of Army and Air National Guard troops called to active duty in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and other states to support hurricane operations as a testament to the Guard's ability to carry out its federal and state missions simultaneously.

Guard members along the Gulf Coast are performing a variety of missions, from providing security at the emergency shelter at the New Orleans Superdome, where thousands of local residents are seeking refuge from Hurricane Katrina, to assisting with emergency evacuations.

As the storm's fury begins to wane, the Guard will begin providing a wide range of other support: helping law enforcement agencies with security and traffic control; transporting and distributing food, water and ice; conducting searches and rescues; providing generator support; and carrying out other missions to support life and property.

Meanwhile, as they support one of the largest hurricanes on record to hit the United States, Guard units are fighting wildfires in the Northwest and guarding critical infrastructure nationwide against terrorists, Blum noted.

And at the same time, an estimated 75,000 National Guard members are deployed to some 40 countries around the world, including Iraq, where they make up almost one-half the U.S. force, he said.

"All of this is happening at the same time, yet we are not putting the overseas mission at risk, nor are we putting the homeland

"It's calming and reassuring on the American public when they see their National Guard."

— Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum  
Chief, National Guard Bureau

defense mission at risk," the general said.

"We are able to do what the nation needs us to do, and whenever we are needed, we are there, with the right skills and the right equipment and the right personnel."

Blum called this capability "a huge success story for the Army and Air National Guard" that provides "probably the best demonstration yet" that the Guard can continue to respond to stateside crises while supporting a federal, overseas mission.

Under a plan he instituted when taking over the National Guard Bureau's reins, Blum initiated a policy to ensure every state has at least 50 percent of its Guard assets available to support state missions.

As of Aug. 30, Louisiana has 65 percent of its troops available for state missions, Mississippi, 60 percent, Alabama, 77 percent, and Florida, 74 percent, Guard officials

said.

The National Guard's presence in states being battered by Hurricane Katrina provides reassurance to the American public, which recognizes the security, medical, communications, logistics and law-and-order support Guard members provide local, state and federal first responders, the general said.

"It's a calming and reassuring effect on the American public when they see their National Guard," Blum said.

"When you call out the Guard, you know that you've got committed citizen-soldiers with considerable skills and a great commitment to the mission at hand."

At the same time, Guard members "have great compassion because they come from the people they are supporting," the general said. "So when you call out the Guard, you basically call out America."

The National Guard is braced to continue that support for the long term until the affected regions get back on their feet, he said.

"We learned from hurricanes in Florida that recovery takes weeks and months, and not days," Blum said. "So we are looking at this recovery operation with the long haul in mind, and we are setting ourselves up to have an extended, protracted response, as necessary, until normalcy is restored to these communities."

### Donations being accepted

Monetary donations can be made to the Red Cross. Online contributions can be made to the Disaster Relief Fund at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org). Citizens can also help by calling 1-800-HELP-NOW.

If patrons are not able to donate in one of the above manners, the Fort Riley Red Cross office will accept donations and forward them on to the disaster fund. Their office is located in the Soldier and Family Support Center, Building 7264, or call 239-1887 or 239-1837 for more information.

Because of logistical issues, the Red Cross cannot accept donations of food or clothing.

Updated information also will be posted at <http://ksready.gov>, including any donations or manpower needs.

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THE EYE DOCTOR  
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Black Only  
3x5.5 The Eye Doctor



# Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Thursday, September 1, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 15

## Sports news in brief

### Outdoor events scheduled

There will be two events coming up during the Labor Day weekend. On Sept. 4 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Privately Owned Firearms, or POF, range will be open. Outdoorsmen wanting to shoot at the POF range please follow the instructions below:

The Military Police are currently manning the gate to the range area. They are inspecting for the Fort Riley Recreation Motor Vehicle Permit, POV pass and that all weapons have the proper PMO registrations. The Recreation Motor Vehicle Permit can be picked up at the Conservation Office, Building 1020, Huebner Road. Weapon may also be registered on post at the Conservation Office, or the PMO Physical Security Office. They will issue you the proper paper work once this process is completed.

All users of the POF Range must have in their possession a valid DOD ID card, and a Fort Riley weapons registration form (Fort Riley form FR 102) for their firearm. Range Officers will validate these requirements; anyone without them will be denied use of the range. All users of the POF range must have a valid POV pass before driving north of Vinton School Road.

On Sept. 8 at 7 p.m. there will be a deer briefing held at the Conservation Office, Building 1020, Huebner Road. This will be part of the Fort Riley Outdoorsman Organization event. This deer briefing is mandatory for anyone that wants to hunt deer on Fort Riley in 2005. There will also be a barbecue available for those who bring their own food starting at 6 p.m. For more information call 239-6211 or visit the Conservation Office, Building 1020, Huebner Road.

### Spouses sought for flag football

Military spouses interested in playing flag football against the Soldier teams this fall season may now have the opportunity to do so. Spouses are currently trying to form a team to play this season.

The post's flag football season begins Sept. 6. For more information or to join call for Reid Murphy at 785-238-8210.

### Rec Center hours to change

Fort Riley's Outdoor Recreation Center will change its operating hours Sept. 11. New hours will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. The center will close Sunday and Monday.

Weekend rental rates will be for Saturday through Tuesday. For more information, call Carol Alexander at the center, 239-2363.

### Post flag football season to begin

The 2005 Fort Riley company-level flag football program will be conducted Sept. 6 through Nov. 7.

Each company commander is authorized to enter one team for competition. The company commander or representative must submit a letter of intent to participate not later than the close of business Aug. 26.

Forms are available in the sports office at King Field House.

For more information, call Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945.

## All-Army softball team takes second

By Claudia Berwager  
Army Trial Camp Supp. Act.

Army couldn't manage to get past the Air Force ladies Aug. 26 during the final game of the Armed Forces Women's Softball Championship at Peterson AFB, Colo. The lady Airmen defeated Army, 20-15.

Early on in the tournament, Army nudged by Air Force, 16-

14. But in day two of play, the lady Airmen fought with a vengeance and slid by with a 26-25 win.

In the finals, Air Force jumped out to a quick 9-4 lead in the first and held onto that lead the whole game. By the end of the fifth, Army had caught up within one with the score 12-11, but in the sixth inning some crucial outfield fielding errors allowed Air Force

to extend their lead to 20-13. Army tried their best, but could only come up with two runs to make the final score 20-15 Air Force.

The Army finished the tournament with a 7-2 record.

Fort Riley's Tammy Baldwin was five-for-five including two doubles in the game. Korea's Chicola Barrington was four-for-five and Kimberly Sinclair drove

in a homer in the sixth.

Six Army players, including Baldwin, were named to the "All-Tournament" team for the championship. Baldwin was named outstanding shortstop.

Baldwin was among the players selected to the Armed Forces All-Star team that will compete in the ASA West Open Championship in Waxahachie, Texas over Labor Day weekend.

### Other Army games

Day 1: Army beat Marines, 23-2; Army beat Navy, 15-2  
Day 2: Army beat Marines, 17-2; Army beat Navy, 15-2  
Day 3: Army beat Marines, 16-4; Army beat Navy, 21-6

## 'Game on'



Post/Blackmon  
Eighth grader Grover McIntosh's (62) run is stopped by seventh graders Ian Palmer (80), Jacob Youngblood (4) and Brenny Higginbottom (72) during the teams' scrimmage Aug. 27.

### Middle school sports season in full swing

Fort Riley Middle School athletes continue their preparation for their upcoming competitive seasons.

#### Football

Lack of experience and low on numbers, the seventh graders seem to have a tough road ahead of them this season. Despite these problems, however, team manager Jordan Alexander has faith in his fellow seventh graders.

"With a team like this, we'll probably have a winning season," Alexander said, noting some of the team's strengths. "The offensive linemen will help out ... on the defensive side, their agility and blocking will help out."

The good news for the seventh graders, said Coach Vic Garcia, is that they will have some extra practice time before their season starts.

"We need a lot of work. Because we have so little experience playing actual football, they need more time to learn some of the basic things," Garcia said.

But the major problem this season, Garcia said, is the lack of players.

"Last year we had about 30; this year we haven't even reached that. We're at 22 or 23. And we have a couple of injuries."

The seventh grade coaches are Vic Garcia and Mike Whaley.

...

With several players returning to the lineup, the eighth graders are looking at a more promising season.

"Our wide receivers are getting better, they're getting better pass plays," said returning player Jordan Fulkner. "The defense is better from last year too."

Daris Benton, a new player from Missouri, said he was looking forward to "winning some games."

"Last year, our team didn't win a lot. I'm hoping we can win some this year," he said.

With a good looking defense and offense, as noted by newcomer Jatarious Ray from Georgia, the team looks to put up a strong fight against its opponents.

The eighth grade coaches are Mark Ellner, Lem James and Chad Plummer.

#### Volleyball

Returning players and fresh talent have volleyball coaches excited about the upcoming season.

"We're going to have some talent this year," said C and D team coach Terry Heina as he and the other coaches conducted tryouts Aug. 22-24.

"We have quite a few returning players and some others who went to summer camps," said A and B team coach Kelli Bartlett, who added she was pleased with what she was seeing at tryouts.

About 70 girls attended tryouts for placement on the A, B, C, D and I teams. No girls were cut from the team, Heina said. Girls knew by the Aug. 25 what team they would be playing on.

Eighth grader Allyson Woolard said she didn't care what team she ended up on, she just wanted to play volleyball.

"I miss playing," the transfer student from Heidelberg, Germany, said. "Volleyball's really fun. It's fun to travel and play other teams and just have a good time."

For eighth grader Jazmene Hartage, win-

See Sports, Page 16

## K-State begins football season

### Wildcats play Panthers at home game

Staff report

K-State will kick off its season opener at home Sept. 3. The Wildcats will take on Florida International at 1:10 p.m.

The Wildcats will put a 15-game winning streak in openers on the line. The team has not dropped a season opener since Head Coach Bill Snyder's inaugural campaign at K-State in 1989.

K-State is celebrating its 110th season of football, while the Big 12 marks its 10th anniversary as a conference.

The 2005 year marks the eighth straight year K-State will face a current or former member of the Sun Belt Conference. The Wildcats are 9-1 all time against current members of the league.

A win on Saturday would give K-State its first victory over a school from the state of Florida. Still, it's not like K-State has faced a Florida school anytime recently. In fact, no player on the current roster was even alive when K-State tangled with its last Sunshine State opponent - in 1977.

Saturday also marks the annual celebration of K-State/Fort Riley Day. The day is designed to recognize Soldiers who will soon deploy to Iraq, those who have recently returned from Iraq and the Guard and Reserve Soldiers who have been activated to Fort Riley in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Several post units will participate in pre-game and halftime activities.

Fans attending Saturday's game may want to allow more time to get to and from KSU Sta-

See Previews, Page 16

### K-State (0-0, 0-0) vs. Florida International (0-0, 0-0)

When: Sept. 3  
Kickoff: 1:10 p.m.  
Tickets: In honor of K-State/Fort Riley day, ITR will be selling a limited number of discount tickets. Call 239-5614.

TV: None  
Radio: Mid America Sports Network, 29 affiliate stations; Junction City on 1420 AM, 102.5 FM; Manhattan on 1350 AM, 101.5 FM, 102.5 FM  
Internet: www.kstatesports.com. Click the "Live" button at the top of the page and mouse down to "Live Football."



Post/Blackmon  
Eighth grade player Taylor Berry and other FRMS players practice their hits during team tryouts Aug. 23.



Post/Perrin  
Tennis team member, Shelby Sizemore practices her technique during the tennis team's first practice Aug. 23.

## Sports news in brief

### Sports office slates activities

**Sept. 1, 5, 8** – Noon to 1 p.m., fitness yoga  
**Sept. 5, 7** – 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., cardio pump aerobics  
**Sept. 6** – 6:30 to 7:30 a.m., PT power time  
 For more information, call 239-2813.

### K-State rugby wants players

Kansas State and Fort Riley's Rugby Football Club plays its first match at Memorial Stadium on the university's campus at 12:30 p.m. Sept. 3.

The combined Soldier and student team is looking for new players. The team conducts practice Tuesday through Thursday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at "Old Stadium," said Luke Amey club president.

The club has 11 matches scheduled for the season, which runs Sept. 3 to Nov. 19. Six matches will be played in Manhattan and the rest are against teams from Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska.

For more information on participating with the Kansas State Fort Riley Rugby Football Club, contact Luke Amey at lia3366@ksu.edu.

### Bowlers can compete for titles

The Fort Riley battalion-level bowling tournament will be conducted Sept. 19-22 at the Custer Hill lanes.

Each battalion commander is authorized to enter two men's teams and one women's team.

Team rosters will consist of not more than four bowlers and one alternate. Rosters will include full name, rank and unit of each member.

Rosters must be submitted to the sports office in King Field House no later than close of business Sept. 13.

For more information, call Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945.

### Youth coaches needed now

Manhattan Parks and Recreation Department is looking for volunteer coaches for youth volleyball and soccer. Currently, five volleyball and nine soccer coaches are needed.

Practices for each sport begin Sept. 5. Games begin the week of Sept. 18. The seasons end Oct. 30.

Volunteers must commit four to six hours per week to conduct practices and games.

Practice schedules are determined by each coach, most games are played on Sunday afternoon.

Interested coaches should contact Mike Buchanan or Adam Dolezal at 785-587-2757.

### Post to host cross country

The 2005 Fort Riley battalion-level cross-country championship will be run Sept. 15 at the Custer Hill Golf Course.

The championship will be conducted in the following divisions of competition:

- **Women's Open Division:** Each battalion commander is

authorized to enter one team consisting of five members. Four members will be counted for team scoring.

- **Women's Masters Division:** The age cutoff for the Masters Division is 35 years old as of Sept. 15, 2005.

- **Men's Open Division:** Each battalion commander is authorized to enter one team consisting of seven members. Six members will be counted for team scoring.

- **Men's Masters Division:** The age cutoff date for the Masters Division is 35 years old as of Sept. 15, 2005.

Starting time for the Women's Open Division and the men's and women's Masters Divisions will be 3 p.m.

A roster of battalion team members and all individual registrations must be submitted to the sports office in King Field House no later than Sept. 13.

The Men's Open Division course will be about 5.2 miles. The other divisions' courses will be about 2.6 miles.

For more information, call Barry Sunstrom at 239-3945.

### Fitness centers post age policy

A recently revised age policy is in effect for the fitness centers on post. Children 12 years old and younger are not authorized to use any mechanical, strength or cardio equipment, saunas or steam room.

Eligible youth who are 15 and younger must be participating in the same activity and under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian. This policy includes the use of basketball and racquetball courts.

Children age 12 and younger are not permitted into the free weight or cardio areas while a parent or guardian works out.

### Rec Center offers shooting aid

The Outdoor Recreation Center, Building 9011 on Rifle Range Road, offers a Laser Shot Shooting Simulation System to help hunters improve their shooting. The system can be used for a rental fee of \$5 per person per hour or a group rate of \$15 per half hour or \$25 per hour.

Outdoor Rec is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, call 239-2363.

### Guard eligible for free licenses

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks will offer Kansas residents who also are members of the Kansas Army or Air National Guard free hunting and fishing licenses and free state park permits.

Application forms for the 2005 licenses will be available in November and can be downloaded from the KDWP Web site at [www.kdwp.state.ks.us](http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us).

The forms must be signed by the member's unit commander and mailed to KDWP with photocopies of appropriate documentation.

## Previews continued from page 15

dium due to roadway construction projects in the Manhattan area.

The biggest project is a redesign of the interchange of K-18 at Seth Child Road has reduced traffic to one lane each direction. It is suggested travelers take Scenic Drive as an alternate route. Scenic Drive merges into Kimball Avenue and is a direct route to the stadium.

Other activities are planned for the Thursday and Friday before the game.

K-State will be hosting its annual Purple Power Play on Poyntz Sept. 1 and 2. Events begin at 5 p.m. both days.

Festivities extend from the Manhattan Town Center Plaza through the 500 block of Poyntz Avenue.

### Florida International



*The Florida International football program enters its fourth year in 2005.*

*After three seasons at the Division I-AA level, the Golden Panthers will step up to Division I-A this season, playing a schedule that includes Big 12 members K-State and Texas Tech.*

*Head Coach and former Miami Dolphin quarterback Don Strock returns 18 starters from last year's 3-7 squad.*

*Nine starters are back on offense, including quarterback Josh Padrick and all five starters on the offensive line.*

*The defense boasts three returning starters up front as well as all three linebackers. FIU will need to replace strong safety John Haritan, who led the team in tackles.*

### K-State



*The Wildcats return 30 lettermen, including 16 with legitimate starting experience.*

*Quarterbacks Dylan Meier and Allen Webb are back under center and each proved to be a capable starter in 2004. The duo should have plenty of targets to choose from as K-State boasts three holdovers at wide receiver in senior Davin Dennis and juniors Jermaine Moreira and Yamon Figurs.*

*On defense, K-State returns plenty of experience up front with all four projected starters having opened at least one game for the Wildcats a year ago.*

*Four standbys with starting experience return at linebacker, including All-Big 12 candidate Brandon Archer.*

## FRMS September home games

Date	Opponent	Time
Sept. 15	Abilene	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 22	Chapman	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 26	Marysville	3:30 p.m.
Oct. 6	Junction City	3:30 p.m.

Date	Opponent	Time
Sept. 15	Abilene	5:15 p.m.
Sept. 22	Chapman	5:15 p.m.
Sept. 26	Marysville	5:15 p.m.
Oct. 6	Solomon	5:15 p.m.

Date	Opponent	Time
Sept. 13	MHT Luckey, Wamego	4 p.m.
Sept. 26	Marysville	4 p.m.
Oct. 8	Fort Riley TRNY (A)	9 a.m.

Date	Opponent	Time
Sept. 8	MHT Eisenhower, Shawnee Heights	4 p.m.
Sept. 26	Marysville	4 p.m.
Sept. 27	Junction City, Wakefield	4 p.m.

## Sports continued from page 15

ning, having fun is important this season, as well as keeping up a family tradition.

"My mom used to play volleyball when she was younger, so it's a sport I got attached to," said the transfer student from Fort Leavenworth.

The A and B team coaches are Kelli Bartlett and Alicia Peckenka. The C and D teams are coached by Terry Heina and Pam Ricard. The I team is coached by Janell Dick and Korin Huncovsky.

### Tennis

Now in full swing, the intramural tennis team looks to give sixth graders some experience in the sport.

Students were issued rackets and lockers during the team's first practice Aug. 23.

The coaches will first begin to instruct the players on the skills of the sport, said Coach Christine Brady.

Lawrence Moss, who is beginning his first year as a tennis coach at FRMS, introduced himself to the players and told them they are entering a lifelong sport. Moss told the players that the young and old can enjoy tennis.

A majority of students on the team are new to the sport, Brady said. Sixth grader Kadesia Johnson said she decided to join the tennis team because she wanted to try something new and because the middle school doesn't allow sixth graders to join the basketball team.

The team currently has no scheduled matches, but Brady said the coaches are working to create a possible scrimmage against Junction City Middle School.

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# Fort Riley Community Life

Thursday, September 1, 2005

America's Warfighting Center

Page 17

## Community news briefly

### Bible study sessions slated

For those interested in Bible study, Officers' Christian Fellowship groups meet on and off post on different days of the week.

To find out more, come to the OCF Fall Kickoff and Potluck at Moon Lake, North Pavilion, Sept. 11, at 5:30 p.m., or contact Ben or Laura Saine 717-2760, Dave or Felicit Velloney 717-2820, Jess or Sarah Curry 532-9177, Bob or Renee Teetsel 784-4480.

### Religious book studies to begin

Looking for purpose in your life? Come to one of two studies of the best selling book "Purpose Driven Life" by Pastor Rick Warren. The studies will be on Wednesdays beginning Sept. 14.

One of the studies will meet in the basement of Saint Mary's Chapel, Building 3. The POC for this study is Capt. Mike Taylor at 239-2095.

The other study will meet in the 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery conference room, Building 7108. The POC for this study is Capt. Kevin Morgan at 239-1056.

Both studies will meet from approximately 11:30 a.m. to noon for a brown bag lunch and fellowship followed by the study from noon to 1 p.m. Participants are encouraged to come and go as needed. The books are being provided at no cost by the Command Chaplain's Office.

### College offers MBA program

The University of Mary, "America's Leadership University" will offer an accelerated Master's in Business Administration Degree (MBA) program on post.

The courses will begin January 2006. The accelerated MBA classes meet one night per week. The 33-hour graduate degree may be completed in 15 months.

Karen Houchins, local UoM coordinator will be at the Riley Conference Center from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sept. 13 to explain the program. Karen may be contacted at 816-235-8815 or khouchins@umary.edu.

### Family programs kick off Sept. 22

The New Parent Support Program and The Exceptional Family Member Program invite you and your children to participate in the annual Kickball Party.

The Kickball Party will run from 10 to 11:30 a.m., Sept. 22 at the Soldier Family Support Center, Building 7264.

Please RSVP to the NPSP or the EFMP at 239-9435.

### Post-wide yard sale scheduled

Fort Riley's next post-wide yard sale is scheduled for Sept. 17. The yard sale will begin at 8 a.m. and continue through the day until 4 p.m.

The sale is open to the public, who will have to enter the post at Trooper Drive, 12th Street off Kansas Highway 18 or Ogden access points. Anyone driving a vehicle without a Department of Defense registration sticker will have to provide a current vehicle registration, insurance card and photo IDs of all adult vehicle occupants.

## Soldier wins sports writing award

By Stephanie Perrin  
Staff writer

An award winning sports writer got his start posting comments on Internet message boards. Three years later, Master Sgt. Herbie Teope of the office of Staff Judge Advocate has found himself on an unexpected career path.

Teope received a letter early August notifying him he had won a national writing award from the National Federation of Press Women Inc.

"Congratulations...You have won the following: First - 61B," was typed in the first paragraph. The organization awarded Teope, first place in the collegiate sports writing category for a magazine or special supplement.

His article, which was published in Rotowire Magazine, first won in May at the Kansas Professional Communicators' yearly awards banquet. He received first place in the collegiate sports writing category and honorable mention in the sports and leisure category.

"To say that it was an honor to be recognized by professionals of the journalism industry in (Kansas) would be an understatement," Teope said.

Teope first began writing by posting his opinions about NFL players and teams



Master Sgt. Herbie Teope

on Internet message boards. In 2002, he received an e-mail from Dave Smith of draftzone.com. Smith inquired if Teope was a journalist. Teope informed him he had no previous writing experiences and Smith then asked if he would be willing to write an article about wide receivers. After reviewing the article Smith offered Teope his first sports writing position.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be able to make money writing about football," Teope said.

Three years later, Teope has

been published in several publications, started attending Kansas State University to obtain his degree in mass communications - all while continuing his service in the U.S. Army.

"I've had an interesting three years," Teope said with a smile. "It's been interesting balancing my requirements to the military and also the writing and school."

During his three years of writing about football Teope has written articles for K-State's Purple Pidge

See Teope, Page 19

## Voting victory



Post/Perrin

Lt. Col. Robert Foutz presents State Representative Barbara Craft with a framed Women's Equality Day poster Aug. 26. The posters were hung around Fort Riley to invite the public to attend the observance commemorating the 85th anniversary of women receiving the right to vote.

## Post celebrates Women's Equality Day

By Stephanie Perrin  
Staff writer

Observers gathered Aug. 26 at Riley's Conference Center to commemorate the 85th anniversary of women receiving the right to vote.

The passing of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution in 1920 ended a 72-year battle for women to receive the right to vote. The struggle had its formal beginning in 1848 at the world's first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, N.Y.

State Rep. Barbara Craft (R-65th District) was the event's guest speaker. Craft, a lifelong resident of Junction City, is in her second two-year term as a state representative.

She graduated with a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Kansas and served as the blood bank director at Irwin Army Community Hospital for a while. She later operated Craft Pharmacy in Junction City with her late husband and served on the Geary County Unified School District 475 Board of Education.

Craft began by commenting on how she felt it was an appropriate coincidence that the anniversary of Women's Equality Day was scheduled during the same time the parliament of Iraq attempted to pass their newly drafted Constitution.

One issue the Iraqis are facing is women's rights, Craft said. The United States has helped to improve the lives of Iraqi women by the \$10-million Iraqi Women's Democracy Initiative, she said. The money has been used to assist with leadership training, skills for teaching entrepreneurship and more, Craft said.

"It's just amazing what the United States is doing to help women in Iraq and to empower them," Craft said.

Craft then discussed the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. Women represented 70 percent of the population following the massacres, she said. Approximately 45,000 households were left to be headed by orphaned children, with 90 percent being girls.

"The women of Rwanda have been absolutely amazing in the last 11 years," Craft said. "The 2003 Rwandan Constitution mandates equality for men and women

in employment, education, family affairs and political organizations. It's amazing they were able to make that much progress in just nine years."

Craft described the achievements of many women in the state of Kansas. The Kansas governor, chief justice of the Supreme Court and the state treasurer and insurance commissioners are women, she said.

"In both houses, about one-third of the house membership is women," Craft said. "Kansas is pretty progressive, aren't we?"

Craft then advised attendees to vote and remain informed on issues affecting governments.

"Voting - it's so important, it's one of the basic liberties that represent free societies," Craft said.

The observance of Women's Equality Day also calls attention to women's continuing efforts toward full equality, said Master Sgt. Larry Caldwell, senior Equal Opportunity adviser at Fort Riley.

A food sampling of sandwiches, fruit and refreshments followed Representative Craft's speech.

## Open House planner preps

Hard work, history create atmosphere

By Jay Baker

DA Public Affairs Intern

Several things go into creating a successful Open House. There are military equipment displays, weapons demonstrations, a petting zoo, a children's obstacle course and much more.

"The best thing about our Open House is that everything is free, except for the food," said Brad Carlton, chief of Plans and Operations Division, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

This year's Open House and Apple Day Festival is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 1 at Cavalry Parade Field.

"The post puts a lot of work into Open House. It takes a lot of coordination," Carlton said. Every installation function is showcased under the Expo Tent at Cavalry Parade Field. That is just one of the many Open House events we do in conjunction with the Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley Apple Day Festival, Carlton said.

What makes Fort Riley unique is its history, he said. Carlton uses the post's past to guide the theme of Open House.

"HASFIR brings in re-enactors like wheelwrights, soapmakers, blacksmiths, gunsmiths, Buffalo Soldiers and pioneer families who help create a mid-1800s feel to the post," he said.

Carlton said he must coordinate with organizations and people on various levels and even with off-post organizations.

"There is no way that one person can put this (Open House) together alone. I have tasking authority, so I break down all the

See Open House, Page 20

### Marriage and Military Life

## Improving communication means deepening love

By Gene-Thomas Gomulka  
Retired Navy chaplain

Dear Gene-Thomas,

We've been married for three years and my husband was deployed for about half of that time. The biggest problem in our marriage involves communication. I think we could be more in love if we communicated better. Do you have a few suggestions that might help?

—Mary

Dear Mary,

The depth of a couple's love for each other can be affected by their communication skills. Couples who can't communicate well will often find themselves incapable of resolving their conflicts. A failure to resolve conflicts will impact a couple's desire to become intimate.

Lack of intimacy in a marriage can increase the chances of infidelity or alcohol abuse in an attempt to overcome feelings of

loneliness. The bottom line is that communication skills are very important in a relationship.

Effective communication requires both a speaker and a listener. If both partners are speaking and neither is listening, real communication is not taking place. Communication requires that one person speaks and the other person really listens.

Communication and Conflict Resolution Programs like PREP (Prevention and Relationship

### About the author

Gene-Thomas Gomulka is a retired Navy chaplain

Have a question? Write Gene-Thomas at letters@plaintec.net





## Community news briefly

### Commissary case lot sale set

A case lot sale is scheduled for Fort Riley's commissary Sept. 3-4.

Patrons will be able to buy products in bulk quantities at savings of up to 50 percent. For more information, visit [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com).

### Crossfade plays on post Sept. 4

Crossfade steps on stage at Fort Riley Sept. 4.

The band will perform in Hangar #17 at the Marshall Army Airfield. Doors open at 7 p.m. The concert starts at 8 p.m.

Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation and Fort Riley present this concert as part of the 2005 Miller Lite Army Concert Tour.

Concession refreshments will be available for purchase. People are encouraged to bring something to sit on.

General admission tickets are available at the Fort Riley's Information, Ticketing and Registration office across the parking lot from the Main Post Exchange.

Soldiers who buy their tickets at ITR pay only \$12. Tickets for the public are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

### Family help class set for Sept. 1

Family Assistance and Point of Contact training classes will be offered from 9:30 to 11:30

a.m. and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sept. 1 at the Soldier and Family Support Center.

For more information, to reserve childcare and to RSVP, call 239-9435.

### Teen Center schedules event

Sept. 2 – 7 to 9 p.m., taco night, \$2.

For more information, call 239-9222.

### Youth Services' activities planned

Sept. 1 – 4 to 5 p.m., Parent Advisory Council

Sept. 1-9 – Noon to 5 p.m., registration for volleyball

For more information, call 239-9173.

### Rally Point offers entertainment

Sept. 2 – 5 to 8 p.m., Family night, movie, music and buffet

Sept. 7 – 5 to 9 p.m., Wednesday wing night

For more information, call 784-5434.

### Repair class set at auto center

A class in basic auto repair is scheduled at the Automotive Skills Center on Custer Hill from 6 to 7 p.m. Sept. 1.

For more information, call 239-9764.

# Soldiers score makeovers

By Elaine Wilson

Army News Service

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas – Four female Soldiers kicked off their combat boots and let their hair down Aug. 16 and 17 for a two-day, high-style fashion and beauty makeover sponsored by Good Housekeeping magazine.

Good Housekeeping editors handpicked the women from a pool of nearly 100 Soldiers from Fort Sam Houston who showed up for the magazine's "casting call" Aug. 4 and 5.

"We wanted to do the makeovers to honor female Soldiers everywhere," said Holly Crawford, Good Housekeeping beauty editor. "Although we could only pick four, we wanted all Soldiers to know how much we appreciate the sacrifices they make. My only and biggest regret is that we couldn't feature more women in our story."

The makeover winners include: Lt. Col. Andrea Taliaferro, Medical Command Equal Employment Opportunity program manager; Capt. Ronsetta Hutchison, Brooke Army Medical Center operating room nurse; 1st Lt. Teresa Nefflen, aide to Maj. Gen. George Weightman, installation commander; and Sgt. 1st Class Tammy Crawley, Company D, 187th Medical Battalion.

"When I found out I was a finalist, I didn't believe it at first," said Taliaferro, a mother of three. "I signed up on a whim and never thought I'd actually be picked."

Her disbelief lasted until the night before the makeover when she finally told her husband, Sgt. 1st Class William Taliaferro, who is currently deployed. "I never won anything in my life," she said. "I



AND/Olivia Mendoza

Starley Murray, from Starley Murray and Company, applies makeup to Capt. Ronsetta Hutchison, Brooke Army Medical Center operating room nurse.

still can't believe it is real."

For Crawley, the makeover offered a rare chance to pamper herself, but "I figured it was still a long shot when I signed up," she said. "Either they really thought I needed a makeover or they saw potential."

Crawford said it was definitely the latter.

"It was very hard to narrow down the Soldiers during our selection process," she said. "All of the women who signed up were beautiful, both on the inside and outside. For these four women, we just saw an opportunity to enhance a beauty that already exists."

The recipients of the makeovers also saw an opportunity — to

update their appearance, learn a few beauty tips, and, as Crawford put it, "stretch my fashion boundaries and find something funky."

For the makeovers, Good Housekeeping pulled out all the stops, sending an entourage of photographers and beauty and fashion experts from New York City to the post to deliver "star" treatment to the women.

The first day, the women started off barefaced for "before" photos, then received a new "do" from Sergio's Hair Salon and Spa in San Antonio. On the whirlwind second day, Starley Murray, from Starley Murray and Company, brightened up their minimalist style with makeup donated by Mary Kay, and

local retailers Chico's and White House and Black Market offered up cutting-edge fashions.

"The look is definitely different," Taliaferro said. "The makeup colors are a lot brighter than I usually wear. When my husband sees my new look, he's going to say, 'who is that woman and what have you done with my wife?'"

Blow-dried, made up, outfitted and beautified, the Soldiers then were asked to strike a pose during photo shoots at the Quadrangle and the Army Medical Department Museum.

"The women didn't need much. We just gave them a more current look and a little of the pampering they deserve," Crawford said. "We wanted to show female Soldiers they can stay within regulation and still look fresh and modern."

The most drastic change, the Soldiers agreed, was to Nefflen, who went from dark brown, medium-length hair to an edgy short blonde cut.

"I was nervous about the change, but everyone so far likes the look a lot," Nefflen said. "It was fun to be pampered and get so much attention."

In addition to their revamped looks, the women also walked away with a generous bounty: a gift certificate from each of the clothing stores and a year's worth of free skin care from Mary Kay, along with all the makeup they could pocket from the shoot.

"I'm so glad I had the opportunity to do this," Crawley said. "It's important for people to know that there are feminine women in the Army. I hope this provides recognition for strong women in the military everywhere."

The makeover story and photos will appear in the December issue of Good Housekeeping.

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# TRICARE unveils health care option

## TRICARE

TRICARE's Extended Care Health Option, or ECHO, is now available for beneficiaries of active duty family members with defined qualifying conditions. Beneficiaries who currently receive care through the Program for Persons with Disabilities, or PFPWD, and do not qualify for ECHO will continue receipt of care through TRICARE program options - Prime, Extra or Standard.

This new program delivers financial assistance and additional benefits, including supplies and services, beyond those available within TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Standard or TRICARE Extra. The ECHO benefit also increases the monthly government cost share from \$1,000 (through PFPWD) to \$2,500 per eligible family member. Additionally, beneficiaries who are homebound may qualify for extended in-home health care through ECHO.

Active duty family members who have one of the following conditions may qualify for ECHO benefits:

- Moderate or severe mental retardation;
- A serious physical disability; or

• An extraordinary physical or psychological condition of such complexity that the beneficiary is homebound.

Multiple disabilities involving two or more separate body systems may result in a qualifying condition determination.

ECHO requires all eligible beneficiaries to enroll in the Exceptional Family Member Program, or EFMP, of their sponsors' military service and to register with their regional contractor or Overseas TRICARE Area Office to obtain ECHO benefit authorization.

To complete EFMP enrollment, eligible beneficiaries must obtain a DD form 2792 (medical summary) and/or DD form 2792-1 (special

education/early intervention summary) and submit the form(s) to their special needs/EFMP coordinator for processing.

Upon completion of enrollment, the sponsor must then show proof of enrollment to the regional contractor for registration into the ECHO program. The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System will then be updated to indicate the beneficiary is eligible for ECHO.

Beneficiaries must use public funds or programs first to the extent they are available and adequate for TRICARE ECHO benefits related to training, rehabilitation, special education, assistive technology devices, institutional care in private, non-profit, public, state institutions or other medical facilities and if appropriate, transportation to and from such institutions and facilities.

For more information about visit the TRICARE Web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil/echo](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/echo).



PWOC/Sarah Arnette

## Fashion statement

Dressed in the styles of the 1950s, "teenagers" Diane Read and Carol Bachelor sport the "latest" trends. The fashion show was the highlight of the 50th anniversary of Protestant Women of the Chapel. The event kicked off Aug. 23 at Morris Hill Chapel.

PWOC meets from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays at Morris Hill Chapel. Toddlers and pre-schoolers will enjoy Bible-based, structured watch care free of charge. A home room is also available for home schoolers to work.

For more information, call President Felitz Velloney at 785-717-2820.

## Marriage continued from page 17

Enhancement Program) emphasize that it is very helpful, particularly when partners may be at odds over a particular issue, that one partner repeat in his or her own words what he or she heard the other partner say. Such repetition can help reduce misinterpretations and let one partner know that the other partner is really interested in what he or she really feels.

Rather than being accusatory, e.g., "You always..." or "You are just like your..." partners should share personally how they feel about a particular situation, e.g., "I feel like I'm being taken for granted when..." Such an approach can improve communication while at the same time effectively reduce conflict.

Some people find that they can better express their feelings through written rather than spoken words. Although effective communication implies using verbal skills, writing a note to one's partner to express one's feelings

may enhance communication and strengthen love.

Men are prone to employ the "silent treatment" when there is a breakdown in communication. Unfortunately, this does not ordinarily contribute to a joint resolution of problems.

While there is a time for speaking and a time for remaining silent, one woman discovered that if she refrained from being "pushy" and gave her partner some "space," her partner was more inclined to discuss an issue with her after having been given some time to reflect upon it.

While men have traditionally been portrayed as confrontational warriors and women have been viewed to be less aggressive, the opposite is often true in the realm of human relations.

Women tend to be more willing and determined to address an issue, while men tend to withdraw and avoid confrontation. Unfortunately, this can create an unhealthy cycle in which the

woman only becomes pushier, causing the man to retreat all the more. By understanding these differences, women can take steps to become less contentious and men can try to become less withdrawn when faced with a given problem.

Do you or your partner ever employ the "silent treatment" in an attempt to avoid confronting a particular issue?

Unless problems are addressed and discussed, they will not go away, but only grow worse. Consequently, couples should avoid delaying discussion of a troubling issue for too long, or a minor problem may evolve into a major one.

Additional information about communicating effectively and resolving conflicts before they lead to serious problems can be found in "The Survival Guide for Marriage in the Military" that can be ordered online and is also available through many military chaplains and family support counselors.

## Teope continued from page 17

magazine and is currently employed as a part-time sports writer for Rotowire magazine. He wrote for Purple Pride as an intern reporter from August through October 2004 covering the K-State home football games.

The Oakland Raiders and Denver Broncos are the two teams Teope covers for Rotowire. He also writes his own column the "The Top Spin" in addition to his coverage of the two NFL teams. Teope said his part-time position with Rotowire is an everyday job. He constantly checks the Internet for reports on new players, injuries and statistics.

Teope's hard work and achievements have allowed him membership into the Kansas Professional Communicators and the Professional Football Writers of America organizations. One of the require-

ments for a writer to receive membership into the PFWA is the writer must have a story written about the NFL published and receive sponsorship from a current member. One of the benefits of being a member of the PFWA, Teope said, is the writer receives free access to all NFL games. He has been unable to attend a game because of his busy schedule with the military, writing and attending classes, he said.

Teope is currently applying for an internship with the Nashville City paper for summer 2006. He said he hopes to achieve an internship in the Nashville area to write about the Tennessee Titans and to be closer to Angela McLemore, someone very special to him, who is currently deployed to Iraq. She has been an inspiration to him and he said he thanks her for all her

support of his writing.

Teope will be saying farewell to the Army at the beginning of 2006, when he retires after 20 years of service. He then plans to attend K-State full time during the spring semester before moving to Nashville for the summer.

"The funny thing is, if I had never found this niche in life, I probably would've stayed in (the Army) ... 10 years ago, my goal was to make Sgt. Major," Teope said.

He will travel to Seattle Sept. 8-10 to receive the national award his hard work has awarded him. He hopes the award will help him to one day obtain his dream job.

"The ultimate goal for me is the Mecca of all sports writing and that's ESPN," Teope said. "That's my ultimate goal."

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## Community news briefly

### Spouses' Club slates luncheon

The Fort Riley Officers' and Civilians' Spouses' Club will host their September luncheon, "Kansas FYI," at 11:30 a.m. Sept. 15 at Riley's Conference Center.

The luncheon will feature several Kansas businesses and home businesses. The club also will be conducting an "Extreme Makeover-OCS Edition" in which three ladies will be selected for makeovers.

The menu choices will be grilled chicken Caesar salad or croissant sandwich.

Those wanting to attend should call Holly Smith at 784-8454 or send e-mail to reservations@fortrileycsc.com by Sept. 7.

For childcare reservations, call Debra Parker at 784-2793.

### Post Bike Patrol slates rodeos

The Fort Riley Military Police Bike Patrol will sponsor three bike rodeos at post elementary schools in coming months. Participants will have to ride through a cone obstacle course. The patrol members also will inspect bikes and make adjustments to fit bikes to riders and will check helmets. Bike registration will also be available.

Rodeos are scheduled from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sept. 3 at Ware Elementary, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sept. 24 at Morris Hill Elementary and from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 22 at Ware Elementary. All participants must bring helmets, working bikes and wear closed-toe shoes.

For more information, call 239-2226.

### Teen sponsors being sought

Fort Riley's Youth Sponsorship Program matches relocat-

ing military teens with teens living on post. It allows youths to contact, communicate and connect with one another before or during their arrival. Youth sponsors can earn volunteer hours, meet new friends, participate in fun activities and help out a fellow military youth.

Teens in grades six through 12 who would like to become a Youth Sponsor or want to request a Youth Sponsor should call 239-9222, stop by the Teen Center in Building 5800 or visit the Teen Center Web page on the Fort Riley Web site for more information.

### Library offers reading fun

Saturday storytimes at the Post Library, Building 5306, will now be offered at 1:30 p.m. and at 4 p.m., due to increasing attendance. All children and their caregivers are welcome to attend either session.

The "dog days" of summer will conclude on Sept. 3, with "Only One Woof" by Dr. James Herriot. "Only One Woof" is the true story of Gyp, a sheep dog who never made a sound until he is reunited with his brother at a dog show.

Other September storytimes will feature "This Little Piggy" stories, starting with "Pig and Crow" on Sept. 10. In this story by Kay Choraio, a lonely pig learns that only by loving someone else will he never be lonely again.

The Fort Riley Library is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The library is closed on Mondays. For more information, call 239-5305.

### Chapel offers marriage classes

The Morris Hill Gospel Congregation sponsors marriage seminars on the first and third Mondays of each month.

For more information, call Morris Hill Chapel at 239-4814.

## Marsh named top employee of quarter

By Stephanie Perrin

Staff writer

The Directorate of Contracting named Marsha Marsh its Employee of the Quarter for the third quarter of the fiscal year 2005. The award recognized her role in managing Fort Riley's supplies and services to support the Soldiers.

Marsh, who won the award as a contract specialist, has worked for the organization for six years. She was recently promoted to procurement analyst and is responsible for developing and managing courses to instruct how to correctly use government credit cards. Her responsibilities as a contract specialist included providing sup-

plies and services for Soldiers' needs.

Marsh received a Blue Chip nomination and \$100 cash award.



Marsha Marsh

## Open House

continued from page 17

events into specific tasks and assign tasks to specific units. For example, the weapons demonstration is tasked to 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry," Carlton said.

Everything from parking to display set-up at the Expo Tent must be planned out Carlton said.

"I don't have to do everything, but I must be informed on everything in order to plan space and

time," he said.

Carlton's goal is to have as many visitors as possible go through as many events as they want with the highest degree of efficiency, he said.

"If I don't see over-filled trash cans, long lines at food vendors or rides, or if I don't overhear a lot of complaints, I will know the event was a success," Carlton said.

### Have a story idea? Call 239-8854.

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## Leisuretime ideas

### At the movies:

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under the age of 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

**Sept. 1** - Charlie and The Chocolate Factory (PG)  
**Sept. 2, 8** - Hustle & Flow (R)

**Sept. 3** - Sky High (PG-13)  
**Sept. 4** - Wedding Crashers (R)

**Sept. 9, 11** - Must Love Dogs (PG-13)

**Sept. 10, 15** - Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo (R)  
For more information, call 784-2226 or 784-2640.

### Junction City:

**What:** Second annual Kansas Domino Championship Tournament. Latin American style block game played in teams of two.

**When:** 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 3 and noon to 5 p.m. Sept. 4

**Where:** 700 N. Jefferson St., Municipal Building  
**Phone:** 238-2885 or (800) 528-2489  
**Admission:** \$30 per team

### Chapman:

**What:** Annual Labor Day Celebration. Morning fun-run, car show, quilt show, craft and food vendors, parade at 2 p.m., Little World Series in the evening.

**When:** 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 5

**Where:** Downtown  
**Phone:** (785) 922-6582  
**Admission:** Free

### Herington:

**What:** Hope Heritage Festival. Fun run/walk, car show, carnival, kid's games, beer garden and Bluegrass/Gospel.

**When:** 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 10 and 10 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Sept. 11

**Where:** Downtown, Hope (near Herington) Herington, KS 67451

**Phone:** (785) 366-7218  
**Admission:** Free

### Council Grove:

**What:** Burdick Labor Day Celebration. Unified church services, program by Council of Clubs, homemade ice cream, two-mile Fun Run, arts and crafts display and parade.

**When:** 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 4 and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 5

**Where:** Downtown Burdick (near Council Grove)  
**Phone:** (785) 983-4861  
**Admission:** Free

### Lawrence:

**What:** Indian Art Show. Juried competition featuring two- and three-dimensional artwork by contemporary American Indian artists from across the United States.

**When:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 9

**Where:** 940 New Hampshire, Lawrence Arts Center  
**Phone:** (785) 843-2787  
**Admission:** Varies

...  
**What:** Haskell Indian Art Market. Two-day outdoor market featuring American Indian artists from around the country. Artist demonstrations, entertainment and food booths.

**When:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 10 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 11

**Where:** 25th and Massachusetts, Haskell Indian Nations University  
**Phone:** (785) 843-6830  
**Admission:** Free

...  
**What:** Kaw Valley Quilt Guild Quilt Show. The Guild is hosting its 28th annual quilt show 'Picking Up the Pieces.' More than 100 quilts made by members will be on display.

**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 10 and 11  
**Where:** 115 W. 11th, Lawrence Community Building  
**Phone:** (785) 748-0852  
**Admission:** \$3

# Bowery Dancers to perform in JC

By Gail Parsons

Special to the Post

"Dance is music made visible," George Balanchine, famed choreographer of the 20th century and one of the founders of the New York City Ballet, once said.

Those who attend the Sept. 24 performance of Bowery Dancers at the Junction City Municipal Building will understand those words when the Lawrence dance troupe takes to the stage for a performance that will combine several dance styles in an electrifying show.

With original choreography, the dancers will introduce the audience to an eclectic assortment of dance genres that includes ballet, jazz, tap, modern, Irish step and historical forms such as Baroque.

This relatively young company started in 2003 with eight University of Kansas dance students.

"We just decided, as we were getting closer to graduation, that we weren't ready to stop dancing," said dancer Jeff Potter.

Four of the original eight members are still active with the Bowery Dancers, including the new Mrs. Potter.

Jeff and Christine met at the university. In time, their love for dance spilled over into a love for each other, and that led to a July 9 wedding. The couple performs with the troupe and teaches dance in Olathe and Topeka.

While choreographing new steps and looking to the future of dance and the dance company, the Bowery Dancers recognize the position dance has enjoyed in history. It takes its name from the canopy of boughs built to protect dancers in the 1800s as they danced in outdoor venues. They continue this dance tradition by

bringing dance to venues where everyone can be involved.

To encourage community involvement, the dancers will conduct an educational, interactive dance program before the 7 p.m. start of the performance.

The combination of workshop and performance was attractive to Vicki Chauncey, director of The Next Step dance

studio, which is helping to bring the Bowery Dancers to Junction City by assisting with ticket sales.

"It's important for the children to see where they can take their

dance, that it can be more than a hobby," she said.

It's also nice for them to have an opportunity to learn from instructors other than those at the studio, Chauncey said.

Christine said the workshop will allow dance students to learn in a group setting and independently. Instruction will include several dance styles, including Irish step, which is Jeff's specialty. He described Irish step as being similar to American tap dance.

"The main difference is that you are holding your body upright - straight and tall," he said.

This style has enjoyed centuries of popularity since its early roots in Ireland. The success of "Riverdance" and more recently "Lord of the Dance" has helped to put Irish dance on the international stage and increase its popularity.

When dancing Irish step, the dancer only moves from the waist down, making it a difficult dance form to learn but worth the effort, Jeff said.

The workshop is open to students of all ages and experience levels.

### If you go:

**What:** The Bowery Dancers are hosted by the Junction City Arts Council and sponsored by The Next Step dance studio, 100 Continental Drive, Grandview Plaza.

This program is also presented in part by the Kansas Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

**When:** Sept. 24, workshop at 5 p.m., dance concert at 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Junction City Municipal Building

**Cost:** Workshop \$5; concert \$10

Tickets are available at the Junction City Art Gallery, 107 W. Seventh St.

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